

**Mid-term report of Montenegro
on the implementation of recommendations received during the third cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)**

I INTRODUCTION

Summary, methodology and consultation process

The National Report on the Human Rights Situation in Montenegro was presented within the third cycle of the United Nations Universal Periodic Review in January 2018. During the interactive discussion, Montenegro received 169 recommendations that have been addressed by the Government of Montenegro. Of that number, Montenegro accepted 159 recommendations (104.1–104.7; 105.1–105.144), of which 144 were accepted as recommendations that are in the process of implementation or that have already been implemented. Positions of the Government of Montenegro as regards the recommendations rejected are explained in detail in the addendum to the Report of the Working Group for UPR, which was adopted by the Government of Montenegro in May 2018.

The mid-term report provides an overview of the progress made in the implementation of recommendations and covers 17 thematic areas: Ratification of international instruments; National human rights framework and national dialogue; Human rights education and training; Equality and non-discrimination; Torture; Judiciary reform and fight against corruption; Civil and political rights; Freedom of expression and freedom of the media; Fight against human trafficking; Fight against domestic violence, violence against women and children; Economic, social and cultural rights, social inclusion; Women; Children; Minorities and Roma; Persons with disabilities; Refugees, displaced and IDPs; Reduction of statelessness; LGBTI persons.

So far, 22 recommendations have been fully implemented; the implementation of 134 recommendations is ongoing, whereas the implementation of three recommendations has not started. The implementation of recommendations in most cases implies continuous processes of improving the national human rights protection system. As regards most of recommendations, the status stated in the report is "implementation in progress".

The mid-term report on the implementation of recommendations received during the third Universal Periodic Review cycle was prepared in accordance with the Action Plan for the implementation of recommendations from the third cycle of the Universal Periodic Review, adopted by the Government of Montenegro in October 2020. The report contains an overview of the implemented measures and results achieved from January 2018 to June 2020, as well as the implementing status of individual recommendations.

The report shows that from January 2018 to June 2020, progress was made in all areas subject to monitoring.

The report results from the joint efforts of state bodies (Government, judiciary and prosecutor's office), the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms, non-governmental organisations and international organisations. The preparation of the report was preceded by a semi-annual consultation in order to develop a Plan for the implementation of the recommendations from the third UPR cycle. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs coordinated the Mid-Term Report's development.

Findings and measures

In order to implement fully individual recommendations whose implementation needs to be stepped up or which has not started in the previous period, the following needs to be undertaken:

1. The Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights shall initiate, as soon as possible, the ratification process of the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute in order to finalise the depositing procedure by 2022 (recommendation no. 105.1);
2. The Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights shall carry out a legal analysis of national legislation for compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and this analysis will be finalized by the end of 2022 (recommendation no. 105.4);
3. The Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights, in cooperation with the Office of the Protector and international organisations, shall continue conducting training sessions in the field of human rights, in order to increase administrative capacities in this field (recommendation no. 105.97);
4. The Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights, in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior, shall step up activities in the field of drafting the Law on Legal Recognition of Gender on the Basis of Self-Determination, so that it can be adopted by the end of 2023 (recommendation no. 106.6);
5. In cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights, the Ministry of Health shall initiate activities to amend the Law on Mental Health, and in accordance with the Law, it shall draft a strategic document and an action plan eliminating practices that lead to involuntary deprivation of liberty of persons with mental health conditions (recommendation no. 106.9);
6. In cooperation with the competent institutions, the judiciary and the Prosecutor's Office shall ensure investigations and prosecutions in relation to corruption (recommendation no. 104.2);
7. In cooperation with the judiciary, the Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights shall step up the judicial reform process by implementing the measures from the 2019-2022 Judicial Reform Strategy (recommendation no. 105.34);
8. In cooperation with the Police Directorate, the judiciary and the Prosecutor's Office shall undertake thorough and effective investigations into attacks against journalists and other media practitioners, in order to protect freedom of expression and media freedom, and participate more actively in the process of reporting on recommendations (recommendations no. 105.46, from 105.53 to 105.59);
9. In cooperation with partners (representatives of the judiciary, the prosecutor's office, the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare) the Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights shall adopt the Draft Law Amending the Criminal Code aimed at toughening up penal policy (recommendation no. 105.109);
10. In cooperation with partners, the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare shall continue conducting training sessions in order to build professional capacity, strengthen the multidisciplinary response and provide support to women and children victims of domestic violence (recommendation no. 105.111 and 105.115);
11. In cooperation with partners, the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare shall ensure efficient and continuous implementation of social protection regulations, in order to enable genuine enjoyment of social rights (recommendation no. 105.88), and participate more actively in reporting on the implementation of recommendations;
12. In cooperation with partner institutions, the Ministry of Health shall continue campaigns to promote immunization and prevention in vulnerable groups, as well as healthy lifestyles (recommendation no. 105.93);
13. In cooperation with NGOs, as well as other partners, the Ministry of Health shall organize promotional campaigns related to selective abortions and training of health care professionals regarding the use of prenatal genetic tests (recommendation no. 104.6);
14. In cooperation with the Parliament of Montenegro, the Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights shall ensure the adoption of amendments that allow for an increase in the quota of 40% for candidates of the underrepresented sex on electoral lists in order to improve the representation of women in political life (recommendation no. 105.42);

15. The Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights shall strengthen the role of the National Council for Gender Equality, continuous work of this mechanism, in order to monitor the implementation of gender equality policies (recommendation no. 105.101);
16. In cooperation with partners, the Ministry of Interior shall continue promotional activities, as well as capacity building in order to eliminate early and child marriages, especially in Roma communities (recommendation no. 105.81);
17. In cooperation with partner institutions, the Ministry of Economic Development shall continue implementation of the MAP16 programme in order to eliminate child labour (recommendation no. 105.87);
18. In cooperation with the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights and the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports shall provide an efficient multisector approach to create a new Strategy for the Prevention and Protection of Children against Violence (recommendation no. 105.123);
19. All competent departments shall align laws adopted in the field of protection of human rights and protection of persons with disabilities against discrimination with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in accordance with the recommendations received (recommendation no. 105.138);
20. In cooperation with partners, the Ministry of Finance shall intensify activities in terms of adjusting facilities in accordance with the adopted 2019 action plan, which identifies 10 priority facilities for adjustment (recommendation no. 105.142);
21. In cooperation with partners, the Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights shall continue staff training in line institutions, as well as organising workshops and sessions for young people in secondary schools in order to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity (recommendation no. 105.19).

The Government stated that the following is necessary in order to implement the recommendations successfully:

- more active participation of representatives of the Prosecutor's Office and the Police Directorate in reporting and implementing measures from the Implementation of Recommendations Plan, bearing in mind that the performance so far has not been at the expected level;
- greater involvement of representatives of non-governmental organisations and the institution of Ombudsman in formulating measures and activities, in order to achieve progress in terms of respect for human rights in the country through joint involvement;
- according to capabilities, increasing budgetary funds for the implementation of measures aimed at completing the plan and improving the human rights situation.

II PROGRESS IN THE ENJOYMENT AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS – IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS, RESULTS ACHIEVED, ACTIVITIES AND CHALLENGES

1: RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 2			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
<p>105.1 Ratify the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court on the crime of aggression (Andorra); Accelerate the drafting of the Law Proposal leading to the ratification of the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute (Georgia);</p>	<p>Consultations are underway between the competent authorities in Montenegro on the procedure for ratification of the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute.</p>		
<p>106.4 Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for UN Treaty Body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);</p>	<p>The Commission for the Selection of Candidates for Membership in the UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies was established in October 2018. The task of the Commission is to consider and assess whether the candidates applying for the public competition meet the conditions based on the criteria from the competitions for each treaty body and to select the appropriate candidate.</p> <p>The Commission consists of representatives of relevant ministries that are key in the process of Montenegro's cooperation with UN treaty bodies. For the purpose of a broader consultation process, the Commission may invite to its meetings</p>		

	representatives of the Institution of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms, universities and the non-governmental sector. That achieves a greater degree of objectivity and involvement of all relevant segments of society in making a decision on the candidate of Montenegro.	
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2: NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORK AND NATIONAL DIALOGUE			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 10			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
<p>105.2 Intensify efforts to overcome challenges in implementing international legal norms by strengthening the effectiveness of its national human rights institutional framework (Namibia);</p>	<p>Activities to strengthen the capacities and human resources are continuously carried out in order to increase the efficiency of institutions for protection of human rights. In 2018-2020, employees in the department responsible for human and minority rights have undergone over 80 training courses in order to strengthen the capacities, vocational training, and advanced vocational training for each employee.</p> <p>A new Rulebook on internal organisation and job classifications of the service of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro is being developed, which will strengthen the capacities of the Institution.</p> <p>The operational capacities and visibility of the institution have been increased through the provision of additional funds for promotional activities, and the role of the Protector has been strengthened in terms of launching initiatives to promote the human rights of the most vulnerable groups, especially children, as well as protecting the rights of migrants and asylum seekers, in cooperation with UNHCR. The electronic database for acting on the complaints submitted by the Protector has been improved.</p>		
<p>105.3 Continuously invest in the process of effective implementation of the normative human rights framework aimed at ensuring that the objectives of that framework are properly and efficiently achieved (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);</p>	<p>Training sessions of employees working on the development and implementation of the normative framework for human rights are continuously conducted. The Protector's institution has improved the training system in all areas of protection, especially in the field of prevention and protection against torture and protection against discrimination.</p> <p>During 2018-2019, the training sessions of the employees of the Institution within international projects and with international partners continued, in cooperation with</p>		

	<p>the Human Resources Administration and the department responsible for human and minority rights. Cooperation took place on two levels: consultative, through the exchange of experiences and knowledge on relevant international law and jurisprudence of judicial and quasi-judicial bodies; and educational, through which the employees of the Institution participate in programmes via training sessions on discrimination for the needs of various state and local self-government bodies. In terms of staff in-service training, education continued under the auspices of the Matra Rule of Law Training Programme for human rights and minorities. The Rule of Law Training Programme is designed to share experiences and good practices as well as strengthen human resources in the area of rule of law and human rights.</p>	
<p>105.4 Carry out a legal analysis of national legislation for compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights through implementation of recommendations, which the country has committed itself to apply (Turkmenistan);</p>	<p>Planned for the second quarter of 2022</p>	
<p>105.5 Take further measures to harmonize its national legislation with recently ratified international instruments (Ukraine);</p>	<p>The alignment of domestic legislation governing protection of human rights and protection against discrimination of persons with disabilities with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is continuously monitored, based on the Analysis of alignment of national legislation with the UN Convention and the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities. For 2017-2018, all laws at all levels of education have been amended in order to promote equality, by introducing anti-discrimination provisions therein. The Law Amending the Criminal Code of Montenegro amended Article 42a by recognising "disability" as an aggravating circumstance when fixing a sentence. In Article 159 "disability" has also been recognised as a basis for violation of equality. This amendment aligned the CC with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Lanzarote Convention. Alignment with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has been performed by amending Article 443 of the CCM in a way that recognizes "disability" as a basis for discrimination in the provision regulating racial discrimination.</p> <p>The process of full alignment of domestic legislation with the <i>acquis communautaire</i> is of special importance for further development and improvement of anti-discrimination legislation and policies, as well as the adoption of strategic documents recognizing priorities in certain areas of protection against discrimination and establishing effective mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of planned</p>	

	<p>measures and activities.</p> <p>In order to implement the policy of protection against discrimination, it is necessary to establish the practice of uniform, detailed and comprehensive keeping of statistics on cases of discrimination.</p> <p>In the coming period, there are plans to work on the alignment of anti-discrimination legislation as well as on amendments to the Law on the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro.</p>	
<p>105.6 Strengthen the means of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms in order to enable it to fulfil its mandate in conformity with the Paris Principles (Senegal);</p>	<p>Budgetary funds for the needs of the institution of Ombudsman are continuously increasing. In 2018, the budgetary funds approved for the work of the Protector amounted to €687,175.68. For 2019, the Protector has been allocated €695,322.43 for work. For 2020, funds for the work of the institution amount to €725,226.69. Funds are increased especially for promotional activities.</p>	
<p>105.7 Strengthen its national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles and provide it with adequate human and financial resources (Timor-Leste); Strengthen the national human rights institution – the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms – in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ukraine); Provide the national human rights institution with adequate human and financial resources to strengthen the institution’s capacity of implementing its mandate in line with the Paris Principles (Portugal); Strengthen the Protector for Human Rights and Freedoms in accordance with the Paris Principles (Greece);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.6</p> <p>Training sessions and advanced vocational training were continuously conducted in 2018-2019 in the field of protection against discrimination, but also in other areas of human rights protection, especially in cooperation with the Council of Europe, the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNDP, OSCE, HELP, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, and organisation German Technical Cooperation (GTZ).</p>	
<p>105.8 Strengthen its national institution of</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.7</p>	

<p>Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms, considering, in particular, its role as the national preventive mechanism against torture and the institutional protective mechanism against discrimination (India);</p>		
<p>105.9 Take further steps in order to strengthen the institution of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms in accordance with the Paris Principles and provide it with adequate human and financial resources, considering, in particular, its role as the national preventive mechanism and the institutional protective mechanism against discrimination (Republic of Moldova);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.7 & 105.8</p>	
<p>105.10 Consider the establishment or strengthening of the existing national mechanism for coordination, implementation, reporting and follow-up, in line with elements arising from good practices identified in the OHCHR Study Guide of 2016 concerning NMRFs (Portugal); Speed up processes to establish a national monitoring mechanism and the OHCHR database (Greece);</p>	<p>Informal working groups have been established in Montenegro to coordinate, implement, report and follow up on recommendations received from UN bodies and human rights committees. Accordingly, coordinators and key partners have been appointed for the development of each report, who monitor the degree of implementation of the recommendations received. Montenegro's consistent approach has proven to be very effective, as it has been recognized as one of about 30 countries that regularly report to UN committees.</p> <p>OHCHR database was established to facilitate coordination of reporting to UN bodies in 2019. At the beginning of 2020, contact persons were appointed to fill in the database and data entry was initiated. This process is still ongoing.</p>	
<p>105.44 Take further measures to strengthen the engagement of the civil sector and the national dialogue on human rights (Qatar);</p>	<p>In the reporting period, strategic documents were adopted in the field of improving cooperation between state administration bodies and NGOs and the environment in which NGOs operate. Montenegro has recognized the importance of the participation of the civil sector in the creation of public policies and is continuously working to improve cooperation in this area. In order to facilitate the access of the civil sector to</p>	

	<p>consultations, the e-Participacija service, which enables online participation in policy-making, has been upgraded.</p> <p>Pursuant to the Law on Non-Governmental Organisations, the Sectoral analysis for determining proposed priority areas of public interest and funds necessary for funding NGO projects and programmes from the state budget in 2017-2020, the department responsible for human and minority rights has allocated, in five priority areas for protection and promotion of human and minority rights, over 3 million and 650 thousand euro for projects. These funds were allocated to projects in the areas of: Protection and promotion of human rights of LGBTI persons; Gender equality; Social inclusion, protection and promotion of human rights of Roma and Egyptians (2020); Protection of persons with disabilities from discrimination and promotion of equality; Development and promotion of the rights of minority nations and other minority national communities.</p>	
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3: EDUCATION AND TRAINING ON HUMAN RIGHTS			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 1			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
<p>105.97 Pursue efforts in the field of human rights education and training (Morocco);</p>	<p>The department responsible for human rights has been organising since 2012 training courses on anti-discrimination legislation and practices according to the Training programme for civil servants, judicial office holders and employees of other bodies and institutions that encounter cases of discrimination. In 2018-2019, the training courses were attended by contact persons in local governments (22 participants from 22 Montenegrin municipalities) who work on the implementation of policies for the protection of vulnerable groups. The ninth cycle was organised in 2020 with a focus on the secondary education teaching staff.</p> <p>We are continuously working on the promotion of anti-discrimination legislation of persons with disabilities - the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities and the 2017-2021 Strategy for Protection of Persons with Disabilities from Discrimination and Promotion of Equality, as well as on models of local action plans for the Strategy's implementation. The department responsible for human and minority rights conducted training sessions for representatives of local governments (175 participants) on the position and policies for the protection of vulnerable social groups, as well as on the obligation to adopt local action plans.</p>		

	<p>With the support of the competent department for human and minority rights, numerous projects in this area have been implemented for members of the civil sector, parents, children and youth with special needs and persons with disabilities.</p> <p>The Protector's institution has improved the training system in all areas of protection, especially in the field of prevention and protection against torture and protection against discrimination.</p>	
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4: EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION		
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 7		
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES	STATUS
<p>105.11 Continue to develop comprehensive strategies to eliminate all kinds of discrimination, in particular those against women as well as members of ethnic minorities, persons of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian origin and other marginalized groups (Serbia);</p>	<p>In March 2019, the Government of Montenegro adopted the Implementation Programme of the 2019-2020 Action Plan for Achieving Gender Equality. The department responsible for human and minority rights, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, has started the process of conducting an external evaluation of the Action Plan for Achieving Gender Equality in May 2020, which will provide guidelines for the next strategic document.</p> <p>In January 2020, the Gender Equality Index for Montenegro was presented for the first time, which is an indicator of equality in the spheres of knowledge, work, money, health and time. As such, it represents an important step forward in the efforts to achieve gender equality, improve the position of women, and monitor progress in this area. The value of the index for Montenegro is 55 out of 100. The development of a Gender Equality Index demonstrates the country's commitment to equality and new approaches in policy making in this domain.</p> <p>In order to implement the 2016-2020 Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in Montenegro in 2018-2020, three Action Plans for 2018, 2019 and 2020 were adopted, defining specific activities for progress in all domains included in the Strategy. The development of the new Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma and Egyptians covering 2021-2025 will begin in the fourth quarter of 2020.</p>	

	<p>On 4 July 2019, the Government of Montenegro adopted the 2019-2023 Minority Policy Strategy, with the accompanying 2019-2020 Action Plan, the implementation of which will continue to preserve multicultural wealth and further improve the position of minorities in Montenegro.</p>	
<p>105.12 Continue to fight against all discriminations especially those targeting people of Roma, Ashkali and Gypsy origin as well as foreigners (Senegal);</p>	<p>The department responsible for human and minority rights organised training courses on the prohibition of discrimination, with special emphasis on discrimination against the Roma and Egyptian populations. In 2018-2019, training sessions were conducted for representatives of local governments, courts, prosecutor's offices, police, social welfare centres, primary and secondary schools, and the media. They were attended by over 160 participants, of which over 110 were women.</p> <p>Twenty shows Savore in the Romani language were broadcast on the public broadcaster (RTCG1) in 2019, dealing with topics from the fields of culture, language, history, important dates and events from the life of Roma and Egyptians. During 2019, 24 shows Romski glas (Roma Voice) were broadcast on Roma Radio. The shows are of informative and entertaining nature, including current events in the field of integration of Roma into Montenegrin society. These shows were also broadcast during 2018.</p> <p>Theatrical performances on human rights were also organised, while the competent department also funded excursions for children from certain municipalities.</p>	
<p>105.13 Enhance measures aimed at preventing discrimination, intensify efforts on fighting poverty and social isolation of vulnerable groups of the population, including women, children and national minorities (Uzbekistan);</p>	<p>The Government of Montenegro is committed to the promotion and protection of minority rights, encouraging the development and expression of the culture of minority nations and other minority national communities in Montenegro by supporting the Centre for Minority Culture Preservation and Development and the Fund for Minority Rights Protection and Exercise. In 2020, the Government decided to provide 1 million and 128 thousand € for funding the Fund's projects. Since 2018, the funds of the councils of minority nations and other minority national communities for the functioning and implementation of programme contents have been doubled and these amount to a total of €600,000.</p> <p>Efforts are being invested to implement substantive law provisions concerning</p>	

	<p>the equal employment of members of minority nations and other minority national communities. In local self-government units in which members of minority nations and other minority national communities make up the majority or 5% of the population, the language of those minority nations and other minority national communities is also in official use.</p> <p>Activities in the field of education and training of members of the RE population are continuously carried out in order to acquire vocational qualifications for performing a certain job, and thus effectively eliminate social exclusion.</p> <p>In the reporting period, 151 members of the Roma and Egyptian population from the register of unemployed persons, of whom 47 were women, were included into active employment policy measures.</p> <p>In order to empower women, in 2018-2019 the department responsible for human and minority rights continued to implement projects dedicated to gender equality and women's empowerment, with the Westminster Foundation and others.</p>	
<p>105.14 Continue to combat all forms of discrimination, particularly against vulnerable groups (Angola);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.97, 105.11, 105.12, 105.13</p> <p>Activities are continuously carried out in terms of improving the inclusion of children with disabilities. During 2019, Analysis of the cross-sectoral system support for children with disabilities in Montenegro was drafted at the proposal of the Council on the Rights of the Child and in cooperation with UNICEF. The objectives of the analysis are improvement of the policy and legal framework for children with disabilities across sectors; improvement of the system of data collection and analysis; improvement of multi-sector coordination and access to education, health, social and child protection and justice systems.</p> <p>Visits to day care centres were organised and cooperation was established with parents' associations in creating activities for greater inclusion in social life and visibility of children with disabilities.</p> <p>According to the Protector's annual activity reports, 155 cases were pending during 2018. The procedure was completed in 146 cases, of which 76 recommendations were given in 30 cases. During 2019, there were 141 cases in the field of protection against discrimination and violation of the right to</p>	

	<p>equality. Out of 131 cases closed, 81 recommendations were given in 38 cases. From 1 January to 31 July 2020, the Protector was working on 140 complaints of discrimination, which is by far the largest number since the establishment of the Protector's competence as an institutional mechanism for protection against discrimination. The procedure has been completed in 103 cases, 37 cases are pending.</p>	
<p>105.15 Redouble efforts in combatting discrimination against all ethnic minorities and marginalized groups in the field of education, employment, health care, social services and political participation (Indonesia);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.13</p> <p>Continuous activities aimed at reducing ethnic distance towards members of the Roma and Egyptian communities are planned to start from the second quarter of 2020. Training courses are organised annually for representatives of local governments, police, social welfare centres, judiciary and the prosecutor's office on Fight against discrimination of members of the RE community.</p> <p>Activities are being carried out in order to ensure regular attendance of pre-school, primary and secondary education of the Roma and Egyptian populations. During 2018/2019, 21 Roma and Egyptian social inclusion associates were hired in the education sector, who act as a link between school and parents, as well as mentors/tutors who help RE students in mastering certain subjects.</p> <p>Round table Participation of Persons with Disabilities in Political and Public Life, Without Discrimination was organised in 2019 for representatives of state administration bodies, State Electoral Commission, NGOs, political parties and parliamentary committees.</p>	
<p>106.5 Strengthen its efforts to promote the equality and fight against discrimination against members of national and ethnic minorities, the refugees and displaced people, including persons of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian origin, people with disabilities, and other marginalized persons and groups, particularly in relation to their access of</p>	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.12 and 105.15 in terms of promoting equality and non-discrimination of Roma and Egyptian populations.</p> <p>A campaign on the prohibition of discrimination and the promotion of anti-discriminatory behaviour was organised in 2018, under the slogan All Together for Equality. The campaign aimed to raise the level of awareness of the general population towards discrimination, create a tolerant environment and sensitize the public, especially towards the most vulnerable social groups, with a focus on children with disabilities. The media campaign, in Montenegrin and Albanian, lasted over 60 days. This campaign was repeated in 2019, and it</p>	

<p>employment, social security, housing, health care and education (Ecuador);</p>	<p>included numerous billboards (60) on the busiest roads and other locations throughout Montenegro.</p> <p>Seminars, training sessions and workshops dedicated to the fight against discrimination, improvement of the position of minorities and reduction of ethnic distance are continuously organised. They are attended by representatives of line ministries and local governments, councils of minority nations and other minority national communities, Fund for Minority Rights Protection and Exercise, Centre for Minority Culture Preservation and Development of Montenegro, and the public service broadcaster of Montenegro (RTCG).</p> <p>In 2019 alone, the Fund for Minority Rights Protection and Exercise financially supported 189 projects in the field of preservation and development of national and ethnic features of minority nations and other minority national communities and their members in terms of national, cultural, linguistic and religious identity.</p> <p>In the reporting period, the Centre for Minority Culture Preservation and Development of Montenegro continued to organise music, art, film and literary programmes and to promote multiculturalism, coexistence and cultural diversity through such programmes.</p>	
<p>106.6 Reform the existing legal provision that requires transgender persons to undergo a surgical intervention in order to obtain legal recognition (Portugal);</p>	<p>In the coming period, efforts will be invested into improving the existing normative framework by adopting a law governing the legal recognition of gender, as planned by the 2019-2023 Strategy for Improving the Quality of Life of LGBTI Persons.</p> <p>At the beginning of 2020, a group of NGOs in cooperation with the Institute for Legal Studies submitted to the competent department for human and minority rights zero Draft Law on the Legal Recognition of Gender Based on Self-Determination, which will be the initial basis for inputs from the working group that will be established in early 2021.</p>	

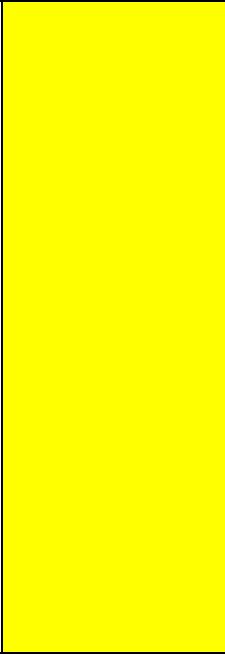
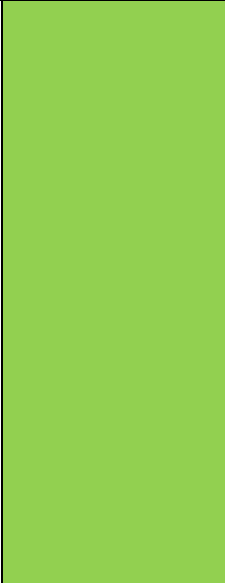
5: TORTURE	
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 16	

IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES	
		STATUS
<p>104.1 Take measures to ensure that allegations of torture, ill-treatment or excessive use of force by the police are investigated by an independent body and all perpetrators brought to justice (Ghana);</p>	<p>State prosecutor's offices opened cases against 74 police officers from January 2018 to May 2020 due to criminal offences of ill-treatment under Art. 166a of the CCM and torture under Art. 167 of the CCM that were committed by police officers. A total of 63 final decisions were rendered. Courts have rendered 13 final judgments against 20 defendants, police officers, for crimes in the field of torture. Out of the total number of final judgments (13), 12 convictions were passed against 16 defendants, and in one case the charge concerning 2 persons was rejected. Two defendants were acquitted in one case.</p> <p>Training sessions for members of the judiciary, the prosecutor's office and the police were conducted continuously during the reporting period.</p> <p>In 2018, the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution Service organised 4 training sessions in cooperation with the Council of Europe on the topic of prohibition of torture and inhuman treatment. In 2019, the Centre organised a training session for judges, prosecutors, advisers in courts, police and the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions. During 2018-2020, within the implementation of the theoretical part of the Initial Training Programme for candidates for judges and state prosecutors, training sessions were conducted on the following topics: Prohibition of torture, Protection against torture as a concept and Prohibition of ill treatment.</p> <p>In March 2019, the Police Directorate appointed the communication and cooperation manager of the Police Directorate with the Council for Civilian Oversight of Police. Training sessions for police representatives were intensively conducted with a focus on the rights of detainees and prisoners, standards and zero tolerance for all forms of torture and ill-treatment. The training sessions were largely conducted in cooperation and through projects of international organisations, the EU/Council of Europe.</p> <p>Under the Law on Execution of Prison Sentences, Fines and Security Measures, oversight and internal control of the use of coercion measures imply an assessment of the justification and regularity of their use by the head of the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions, of which a report is made and</p>	

	<p>submitted to the department of justice. If the assessment results in establishing that the security officer has overstepped or unlawfully applied coercion measures, the procedure of determining disciplinary responsibility is initiated against him, while at the same time informing the Police Directorate and the competent state prosecutor's office in order to take actions and measures within their competence. It is certain that the internal control mechanism available to the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions and the department of justice in accordance with the said law, includes detailed steps for monitoring the use of coercion measures, and for sanctioning overstepping in disciplinary proceedings and possibly, in criminal ones. Additionally, continuous advanced professional training of employees and filling staff vacancies will prevent excessive use of force against persons deprived of liberty. Oversight and prevention of the excessive use of force by officials by the National Preventive Mechanism as the relevant institution dealing with the protection of human rights and freedoms and the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is also important. In 2019, charges were filed with the Ethics Committee against two officers of Podgorica prison establishment on suspicion of inadequate treatment of prisoners. The Ethics Committee of the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions determined in 2 cases involving 2 prisoners that there were no elements of violation of the rules laid down by the Code of Ethics of employees of the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions.</p>	
<p>105.20 Amend the national Criminal Code by incorporating a definition of torture that contains all the elements provided for in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, in particular ensuring penalties are in line with the gravity of the crime (Netherlands); Adopt a definition of torture that covers all the elements set in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and ensure that the</p>	<p>As part of the EUROL II 2019 project, an expert was hired to develop an Analysis of the Laid down Penal Ranges in the Criminal Code of Montenegro. The Analysis will show in a methodological and detailed manner whether there are inconsistencies in the range of penalties and no limitation periods for criminal offences in the CCM in respect of individual crimes, taking into account comparative experiences, and in particular EU Member States' experiences.</p> <p>A working group for drafting the Law Amending the Criminal Code of Montenegro was established in 2019.</p> <p>According to the 2020-2022 Programme of Accession of Montenegro to the European Union, amendments to the Criminal Code are planned for the fourth quarter of 2021.</p>	

<p>penalties provided for acts of torture proportionate to the gravity of the crime (Côte d'Ivoire);</p>		
<p>105.21 Ensure that all allegations of torture, cruel treatment or excessive use of force by police officers are consistently investigated and that the perpetrators are brought to justice (Belarus);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 104.1</p>	
<p>105.22 Ensure the appropriate investigation into cases of torture and cruel treatment of persons deprived of liberty and bring the perpetrators to justice (Russian Federation);</p>	<p>In the field of protection against torture/ill-treatment, according to the 2018 Annual Activity Report, the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms had 14 cases related to torture. Violations of rights were established in 2 cases and opinions with recommendations were issued. According to the 2019 Annual Activity Report, the Protector had 13 cases related to torture. Violations of rights were established in 2 cases and opinions with recommendations were issued. All activity reports of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms are publicly available on the Protector's website: www.ombudsman.co.me.</p>	
<p>105.23 Ensure the provision of the necessary professional training for the law enforcement officers in order to prevent torture and cruel treatment of detainees and prisoners (Russian Federation);</p>	<p>In cooperation with the IECS and the Police Directorate, the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms conducts lectures and training sessions for police and prison officers, in order to prevent torture and cruel treatment (at least once a year). Aiming to prevent humiliating and inhumane treatment of persons deprived of their liberty, as well as to build zero tolerance for torture in prisons, the following training sessions were conducted at the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions between January 2018 and May 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of trainers for the promotion of the protection of human rights of detainees and prisoners. Nine officers were trained as trainers (security officers, treatment officers, employees of the staff training department), and they further trained other IECS officers. • Cascade training was attended by 128 officers from different areas of prison services (security, treatment, medical staff). • Two training sessions on international guidelines for the effective investigation and documentation of torture and other cruel, inhuman 	

	<p>or degrading treatment or punishment (Istanbul Protocol) for 56 officers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on criminal offences of ill-treatment under Article 166a and torture under Article 167 of the CCM for 34 employees at expert staff and expert and managing staff levels. • Training on mediation in disputes between prisoners. <p>The Staff Training Department of the IECS adopted a training programme for prison officers for 2018-2019 and 2020-2021.</p>	
<p>105.24 Continue working to eradicate torture and strengthen the effective implementation of the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment (Chile);</p>	<p>All activity reports of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms are publicly available on the Protector's website: www.ombudsman.co.me. Information is available there on all opened cases related to torture and violation of the rights of persons in custody, as well as Protector's recommendations.</p> <p>The Police Directorate is investing intensive efforts to implement the Ombudsman's recommendations for protection against torture and protection of human rights and it strongly promotes zero tolerance for all cases of torture - eradication of ill-treatment in the police service towards persons deprived of liberty.</p> <p>The Law Amending the Law on Execution of Prison Sentences, Fines and Security Measures has significantly improved the provisions on employment and responsibility of employees of the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions.</p> <p>The internal control mechanisms available to the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions and the department of justice in accordance with the said law, include detailed steps for monitoring the use of coercion measures, and for sanctioning overstepping in disciplinary proceedings and possibly, in criminal ones. Additionally, continuous advanced professional training activities of employees and filling staff vacancies will result in preventing the recurrence of such situations.</p>	
<p>105.25 Continue strengthening the fight against discrimination and incitement to violence against vulnerable groups, and ensure that crimes motivated by</p>	<p>Training sessions of judges and prosecutors on prohibition and prevention of discrimination are continuously conducted. They were specifically focused on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); Article 14 of the European Convention</p>	

<p>prejudice are investigated and prosecuted, and perpetrators convicted and punished (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);</p>	<p>on Human Rights; international labour law/aspects of discrimination in employment; international human rights standards of LGBT persons.</p> <p>In order to effectively and successfully implement anti-discrimination legislation, the relevant line ministry for human and minority rights is carrying out activities related to the education of employees in government agencies, judicial bodies, prosecutor's office and other independent organisations and institutions on the fundamentals of legal prohibition of discrimination, and on special forms of discrimination, i.e. forms that are most common in practice and which relate primarily to the work performed by employees in the state administration and local community administration, judicial office holders, employees of other independent human rights bodies, and employees of other bodies and institutions that encounter cases of discrimination. For eight years in succession, the line ministry of human and minority rights has been organising training courses under the Training programme for civil servants, judicial office holders and employees of other bodies and institutions that encounter cases of discrimination. The participants are presented the entire legal regime of non-discrimination, and training also includes special forms of discrimination, including the prohibition of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, or national origin.</p>	
<p>105.26 Ensure sufficient and stable funding of the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture and strengthen efforts to ensure that its recommendations are properly implemented (Czechia);</p>	<p>The funds allocated for the institution of the Protector have been continuously increasing in the reporting period. According to the Law on Budget of Montenegro for 2018, total funds allocated to the Protector amounted to €687,175.68, for 2019 - €695,322.43, while the Law on Budget of Montenegro for 2020 allocated funds amounting to €725,226.69.</p> <p>In terms of increasing efforts to ensure adequate implementation of the recommendations of the National Preventive Mechanism against Torture (NPM), the Parliament of Montenegro considered the NPM's annual reports and those sent to the competent authorities, thus reinforcing the Protector's recommendations and inviting competent entities to intensify activities and invest additional efforts to implement NPM recommendations.</p> <p>Via the competent Human Rights and Freedoms Committee and within its control and supervisory role, the Parliament monitors the implementation of the Protector's recommendations from the NPM annual reports, as well as the implementation of the Parliament's conclusions. Based on the information in</p>	

	<p>the NPM annual reports, the Parliament of Montenegro determined that the professional cooperation and partnership between the Protector and competent institutions in the field of protection of the rights of persons deprived of liberty and continuous activities to protect the rights and improve the conditions of these persons, have contributed to the constant improvement of their position.</p>	
<p>105.27 Strengthen education for prosecutors, judges and police officers as well as social workers for the effective implementation of the laws against violence (Croatia);</p>	<p>Training sessions for members of the judiciary, the prosecutor's office, the police, and representatives of institutions for social and child protection were conducted continuously during the reporting period. Most training sessions were conducted by institutions responsible for organising them in cooperation with and often through projects of international organisations.</p> <p>In 2018, the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution Service organised 5 training sessions on domestic violence, which were attended by 120 participants. The Centre organised 2 training sessions attended by 51 participants in 2019, on the topic of domestic violence. A seminar on the protection of women from violence, including domestic violence, was organised in 2020 and attended by 25 participants. During 2018-2020, within the implementation of the theoretical part of the Initial Training Programme for Candidates for Judges and State Prosecutors, 6 training sessions were conducted on international instruments and case law concerning domestic violence, with special emphasis on the Istanbul Convention and the implementation of the Law on Domestic Violence Protection.</p> <p>Intensive and continuous training sessions were also conducted within the Institute for Social and Child Protection. The programmes were largely focused on training the specialised personnel for protection against domestic violence and violence against children, assessment of security risk management in cases of violence in partnerships and violence against women and children, institutional protection, work in specialised help and support services, etc.</p>	
<p>105.28 Continue measures aimed at improving conditions in detention facilities (Georgia);</p>	<p>Each reporting year, the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms, acting as an NPM, pays visits to bodies and institutions on the basis of the annual Work Plan, which is made after a consultative meeting with NGOs dealing with the rights of persons deprived of their liberty. All activity reports of the Protector acting as an NPM are publicly available on the Protector's website: www.ombudsman.co.me. These reports mention all visits to bodies and</p>	

	<p>institutions in the field of torture prevention, and include an evaluation of the situation and recommendations.</p> <p>Brochures and pamphlets on the competences of the Protector, the manner of addressing the Protector and the rights of persons placed in the Institution for Execution of Criminal Sanctions, are regularly distributed to detainees and sentenced persons.</p> <p>The Police Directorate adopted an act on the implementation of recommendations from the Report of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) on the visit to Montenegro from 9 to 16 October 2017 as well as the Action Plan for implementation of measures from the Committee's report. This act contains all the recommendations from the CPT's report, as well as the obligation of all organisational units to report on their implementation on a monthly basis.</p> <p>The Police Directorate is working to eliminate the shortcomings related to inadequate infrastructural conditions. Activities have also been undertaken to improve the living conditions of detainees at the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions: remodelling premises, constructing walkways and installing overhanging eaves in areas where detainees spend time outdoors, replacement of central heating hot water pipes in Podgorica remand prison. In Bijelo Polje prison, activities have been undertaken to improve the conditions in the premises of the detention unit by remodelling the existing detention facilities, and by equipping 3 new premises for the placement of detainees.</p>	
<p>105.29 Ensure that all prisoners receive a thorough medical examination and have the right of access to health care services (Islamic Republic of Iran);</p>	<p>Health care for persons deprived of their liberty is provided within the Health Care Department of the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions. Where it is not possible to provide health care to these persons in IECS, they are referred to public health establishments of the Clinical Centre of Montenegro, general and special hospitals.</p> <p>Instructions on Health Care of Prisoners (convicted and detained persons) from April 2018 were revised in March 2019. The revised Instructions are aligned with the guidelines of the Council of Europe experts, recommendations of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms, and the Istanbul Protocol. This act improved the procedure for providing health care to persons deprived of their</p>	

	<p>liberty, as well as protocols, registers and records.</p> <p>In cooperation with the Health Insurance Fund, technical equipment was provided for the software networking of the Health Care Department with the central health system of Montenegro and the networking of prison infirmaries with the public health information system was completed. This enables electronic monitoring and recording of patients' health, scheduling specialist examinations and prescribing medications. Doctors have been selected who will be allowed to have electronic signatures, which will enable them to issue electronic prescriptions.</p>	
<p>105.30 Intensify its efforts to provide human rights training programmes for all law enforcement officials to prevent cases of torture, ill treatment and excessive use of force (Indonesia);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 104.1</p>	
<p>105.31 Continue and extend the measures to raise awareness among members of the police and law enforcement regarding respect for diversity, human dignity and minority rights and enhance supervisory mechanisms to monitor police behaviour (Islamic Republic of Iran);</p>	<p>During the performance of administrative supervision, employees of the department responsible for internal affairs identify the training sessions that would be needed for the Police Directorate staff. Ongoing training sessions are organised for all police officers, thus sending an unequivocal and firm message of "zero tolerance" for abuse. From January 2018 to November 2019, the department responsible for internal affairs conducted 3 training sessions on torture prevention for 43 police officers, while training sessions related to CPT recommendations are planned to be organised in December for four regional police headquarters.</p>	
<p>106.9 Change the current medical model and approach to mental health and disability by prohibiting practices that lead to involuntary deprivation of liberty of persons with mental health conditions or psychosocial disabilities, based on the suspicion of mental illness (Portugal);</p>		

TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 11			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES	STATUS	
<p>104.2 Take further steps to address corruption and ensure a thorough and consistent approach to investigations and prosecutions in relation to corruption (Australia);</p>	<p>Training sessions for members of the judiciary, prosecutor's office and police are continuously conducted. The training sessions are organised by bodies responsible for such activities, either independently or in cooperation with international organisations. They were especially focused on investigations of organised crime and high-level corruption – inter-agency cooperation, secret surveillance measures with emphasis on violation of the right to privacy and protection of personal data, protection of whistle-blowers, financial and criminal investigations in money laundering cases, international standards for combating trade in cultural goods, modern investigative methods and mutual legal cooperation. Several conferences on related topics were organised.</p>		
<p>105.32 Provide the State Prosecutor's office and the Special Department for war crimes with adequate resources and training so as to bring perpetrators to justice (Republic of Korea);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 104.2</p> <p>In January 2018, the Prosecutorial Council passed a Decision on changing the number of state prosecutors in the Special State Prosecutor's Office, which increased the number from 10 to 12 prosecutors (Chief Special Prosecutor and twelve special prosecutors).</p> <p>A total of 82 continuous training activities were organised in 2019, attended by 813 judges and 371 state prosecutors.</p> <p>In 2020, independently or in cooperation with other institutions, international partners and the NGO sector, the Centre conducted 72 training activities for judges and state prosecutors, attended by 1187 participants.</p>		
<p>105.33 Deepen investigative and sanctioning measures for perpetrators of war crimes, in particular those who held commanding positions at the time of the conflict (Argentina);</p>	<p>Pursuant to the War Crimes Investigation Strategy, the Special State Prosecutor's Office reports to the Supreme State Prosecutor.</p> <p>In the reporting period, one final conviction was rendered for a war crime. In 2019, one defendant was found guilty and sentenced to 14 years in prison for war crimes against civilians under Art. 142(1) of the CC FRY.</p>		

	As for civil proceedings in which the court decided on actions for damages to victims of war crimes, 32 final judgments were rendered.	
<p>105.34</p> <p>Continue the judicial reform process, including by further efforts to eliminate political influence on the judiciary (Austria);</p>	<p>At its session on 12 September 2019, the Government of Montenegro adopted the 2019-2022 Judicial Reform Strategy with the Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy for 2019-2020. Guidelines and recommendations from the EU, UN committees (CRC, UNCAC, CEDAW, and HRC), Council of Europe committees (CEPEJ, MONEYVAL, GRECO, and GRETA) were used for the development of the Strategy, as formulated in reports and progress assessments within the EU membership negotiation process.</p> <p>Reform activities in the previous period were aimed at increasing judicial independence, impartiality and accountability, enhancing the efficiency of the judiciary, improving accessibility, transparency and public trust in the judiciary, developing international and regional judicial cooperation, developing institutional cooperation at the international and regional level and other institutions serving judicial purposes. The new legislative framework in the field of judiciary has introduced new rules and procedures aimed at improving judicial independence and the impartiality of judges and state prosecutors, by enabling the selection and promotion of judges and state prosecutors in a transparent manner and in accordance with their performance, including the procedure of voluntary permanent assignment of judges and state prosecutors and increasing their accountability through a system of periodic, individual, and professional evaluations. Permanent voluntary assignment of judges and SPs is the way in which they are assigned in accordance with the Law on Judges and the Judicial Council, as well as the Law on State Prosecutor's Office. Moreover, a disciplinary system based on the principles of legality and proportionality of violations of laws and sanctions has been established.</p>	
<p>105.35</p> <p>Continue to take necessary measures for ensuring compliance within national judicial system, including through incorporating international human rights and anti-corruption standards into the capacity-building curricula designed for judicial officials</p>	<p>The Action Plan for the Implementation of the Judicial Reform Strategy for 2019-2020 determines the activities, result and performance indicators, time limits, competent institutions and funds planned for achieving the objectives defined by the Strategy. The 2019 annual report on the implementation of the Action Plan for the implementation of the 2019-2022 Judicial Reform Strategy was adopted in April 2020.</p>	

(Azerbaijan);		
<p>105.36 Promote independence of the Judicial Council and develop the disciplinary framework for judges and prosecutors (Islamic Republic of Iran);</p>	<p>During 2017, the Judicial Council conducted evaluations and fixed marks for 13 judges for the purpose of promotion to a higher instance court. The Council conducted the procedure of regular evaluation of judges with 5-10 years of judicial experience for the first time in 2018 and determined performance appraisals for 31 judges, while 10 judges were evaluated for the purpose of promotion. The Judicial Council appointed a disciplinary prosecutor and a Disciplinary Council.</p> <p>During 2019 and 2020, disciplinary proceedings were conducted against 14 judges to determine violations of the Code of Ethics by judges. In two proceedings a violation was established, in eight proceedings there was no violation, two cases were merged into one because they concerned the same judge, and two cases were forwarded to the disciplinary prosecutor for further proceedings.</p> <p>The performance of 9 state prosecutors elected to office was appraised after two years of service, in 2017. In 2018, the performance of 10 state prosecutors was appraised in the regular evaluation procedure, as well as of 7 state prosecutors elected for a term, after two years of work. The evaluation procedure of heads of state prosecutor's offices was also conducted (15 in total). The Prosecutorial Council appointed a disciplinary prosecutor and a Disciplinary Council.</p> <p>During 2019, there were no proposals to conduct proceedings entailing liability to disciplinary action of state prosecutors. During 2020, Commission for the Code of Ethics of State Prosecutors was working on five initiatives for determining violations of the Code of Ethics, of which one case is pending, and four initiatives resulted in determining that the provisions of the Code had not been violated.</p> <p>Training sessions on this topic are conducted for judges and state prosecutors within the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution Service.</p>	
<p>105.37 Fully implement the reforms in the judicial sector in order to guarantee</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.34</p>	

<p>the independence and impartiality of the judiciary (Italy);</p>	<p>A number of positive developments have been made in the area of judiciary reform, of which the following should be underlined: the adoption of amendments to the Constitution increasing the independence of the judiciary; modification, improvement and implementation of the normative framework in the field of judiciary, streamlining the network of courts and misdemeanour system, improving criminal and civil legislation, shortening the length of proceedings and reducing the backlog of court cases, improving accessibility, transparency and public trust in the judiciary, strengthening institutional and professional capacities of judicial authorities.</p>	
<p>105.38 Improve internal control and inspection mechanisms within the public administration alongside cooperation with law enforcement authorities in order to effectively combat corruption (Sweden);</p>	<p>According to the Anti-Corruption Agency, the total number of authorities in Montenegro that are obliged to adopt an integrity plan and report annually on its implementation is 706. All bodies are classified into ten systems, and a number of systems are divided into subsystems for the needs of a more detailed analysis.</p> <p>Every two years, the authorities evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the integrity plan and adopt a new plan for the next two years. Out of the total number of government bodies, 671 reports on the implementation of integrity plans were submitted to the Agency in 2019. Pursuant to the Report on the adoption and implementation of integrity plans for 2019, prepared by the Agency in March 2020, out of a total of 21,560 measures in current integrity plans, it was estimated that 75% of measures were implemented, 13.9% partially implemented, while 11.1% of measures were not implemented. The highest level of implementation of measures was achieved in the judiciary (86.2%), followed by educational institutions (79.7%), public enterprises (78.4%), health (74.6%) and regulatory bodies (73.6%).</p> <p>Based on the submitted plans and reports on their implementation, the Agency gave recommendations to the authorities for the improvement of the plans. Of the total number of bodies that received recommendations and developed a new integrity plan, 186 bodies fully adopted the Agency's recommendations (35.7%), 186 bodies adopted a number of recommendations (35.7%), while 149 bodies did not adopt recommendations for improvement of the integrity plan (28.6%).</p>	
<p>105.39 Address corruption in the public sector and ensure the proper use of public authority in managing and</p>	<p>As for the prevention of conflicts of interest and restrictions in the performance of public office, based on the opinions and decisions of the Anti-Corruption Agency, 57 public officials resigned from public office, while four</p>	

<p>disposing of public property (Canada);</p>	<p>were dismissed in 2019. In 2018, the number of resignations and dismissals was 77, which indicates an increase in the awareness of officials regarding the respect for statutory obligations in this area.</p> <p>The trend of increased number of submitted income and asset declarations continued, due to increased information and education of public officials. There was a significant increase in the number of submitted special reports on the increase of assets by public officials. In 2019, 35.3% more than in 2018. The level of violations of these statutory provisions has also been reduced (found in 47.4% of decisions in 2019, compared to 51% of decisions in 2018).</p> <p>Amendments to the Law on Political Entity and Election Campaign Funding were adopted, by implementing the Agency's IT System Development Plan in this area, which are available on the ACA website. A total of 110 whistle-blower reports were submitted in 2019, which is at the level of 2018, but by as much as 96% more than in 2016, and 59% more compared to 2017. The percentage of whistle-blower reports in which harm to the public interest or some other type of irregularity were identified increased in 2019, which indicates that whistle-blowers contributed to the prevention of various types of harm to the public interest.</p> <p>The number of misdemeanour proceedings due to violations of the provisions of the laws within the competence of the Anti-Corruption Agency remained at the same level in 2018 and 2019, but, in terms of sanctions, there was an increase in the percentage of punishability and a higher amount of fines. The percentage of proceedings in which sanctions were imposed is continuously high (90%). The value of property confiscated because of anti-corruption regulations' violations almost doubled in 2019 compared to 2018.</p>	
<p>105.40 Continue to enhance the implementation of anticorruption policies, including by strengthening the independence and effective functioning of the judiciary (Estonia);</p>	<p>The Law on Prevention of Corruption stipulates the obligation of judges and state prosecutors to submit an income and asset declaration to the Anti-Corruption Agency within 30 days of taking office, as well as income and asset declarations for their spouses and children if they live in a joint household, showing the state on the day of their selection, appointment or nomination. Also, during the performance of their office judges and state prosecutors are obliged to submit annual income and asset declarations, as well as other reports in accordance with this law. Acceptance of gifts and non-submission of information on income and asset in accordance with the law is a serious</p>	

	<p>disciplinary offence, subject to a fine and a ban on promotion.</p> <p>Codes of Ethics for judges and state prosecutors have been adopted and Commissions for monitoring compliance with codes of ethics by judges and state prosecutors have been established. Training sessions for judges and state prosecutors on this topic are conducted at the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution Service.</p>	
<p>105.41 Implement in a concrete manner the measures adopted to strengthen the rule of law and the fight against corruption (France);</p>	Reference to recommendation 105.35	

7: CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 1			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
<p>105.45 Work closely with relevant actors in implementing ODIHR recommendations on electoral reform, with a view to ensuring that the electoral processes and legislative framework are fully in line with international standards (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);</p>	<p>At its second session, held on 25 December 2020, the Political System, Judiciary and Administration Committee deliberated on the proposed Decision establishing the Comprehensive Electoral Reform Committee. The Committee unanimously adopted the said proposal.</p> <p>On 29 December 2020, the Parliament of Montenegro passed the Decision establishing the Comprehensive Electoral Reform Committee. The procedure for appointing the members of the said Committee is in progress.</p>		

7.1: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA		
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 22		
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED

RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES	STATUS
<p>104.4 Take further steps to ensure the full exercise of freedom of expression and media, including by ensuring the independence of national TV broadcaster RTCG (Canada);</p>	<p>In July 2020, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Law on Media and the Law on the National Public Broadcaster Radio and Television of Montenegro. These laws are the product of multi-agency working groups (trade unions, civil society, media associations, media outlets, academia, state bodies), created through an inclusive process, broad public debate, and with the participation of international experts.</p> <p>Media law reform is fundamentally based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – recommendations from the Montenegro Media Sector Inquiry performed through JUFREX, a joint European Union and Council of Europe programme; – implementation of media legislation experiences; – requirements and suggestions of the media community and the NGO sector during the implementation of current legislation. <p>The Law on Media is an umbrella law that strengthens the basic principles of media freedom, freedom of expression, public nature of media ownership, transparency of media advertising, protection of media pluralism (establishment of the Media Pluralism and Diversity Promotion Fund), editorial autonomy and other issues relevant to the work of media outlets.</p> <p>The law is aligned with Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights and Freedoms, case law of the European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe recommendations on freedom of expression, and findings from the regular annual EC Progress Reports on Montenegro.</p> <p>The Law on National Public Broadcaster Radio and Television of Montenegro improves the financial, institutional and political independence of the national public broadcaster by providing funds from the budget of Montenegro (funding percentage related to GDP) for the provision of public services. The Law further defines that the allocation of funds must not affect the editorial, financial and institutional independence of RTCG.</p> <p>The Law defines that RTCG is independent in editing programmes, so accordingly, RTCG sets the programme schedule, concept of programme production and broadcasting, it edits and broadcasts information on current events, and organises the performance of activities. Journalists employed in RTCG are independent in their work.</p>	

	<p>In order to avoid the possibility of political pressure on the national public broadcaster, the Law defines a period of 3 years during which political officials, members of parliament and local councillors cannot be selected members of the RTCG Council, thus additionally specifying/strengthening matters of conflict of interest of RTCG Council members. Additionally, the Law does not recognize the possibility of collective dismissal of the Council, but exclusively the possibility of dismissal of individual Council members and only in a limited number of circumstances.</p> <p>Drafting the Law on Audio-visual Media Services that is to be aligned with the standards of the EU's Audio-visual Media Services Directive (AVMSD) is in progress. The OSCE and the Council of Europe provided expert support during the drafting of the bill.</p>	
<p>104.5 Take action to ensure editorial independence of public broadcasting (Sweden);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 104.4</p>	
<p>105.46 Take timely and effective actions towards safeguarding the freedom of expression including by curbing impunity for attacks against journalists, other media practitioners and media house and ensuring a prompt, thorough, independent and impartial investigations to such cases as well as bring the perpetrators to book (Namibia);</p>	<p>Cases related to criminal offences or misdemeanours committed to the detriment of journalists are resolved as a matter of priority in court proceedings.</p> <p>In the 2018-2020 period, courts had 7 cases pending due to the criminal offence of reckless endangerment under Art. 168 of the Criminal Code of Montenegro, which were committed to the detriment of journalists (5 cases under the jurisdiction of criminal courts and 2 cases under the jurisdiction of misdemeanour courts). Court proceedings were conducted against 6 defendants. Final convictions were passed in 5 cases, while one criminal procedure for acts committed to the detriment of 2 journalists and one misdemeanour procedure committed to the detriment of 1 journalist are in progress.</p> <p>Pursuant to the instructions of the Supreme State Prosecutor, adopted in 2018, prosecutor's offices submit reports on attacks on journalists to the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office.</p> <p>The cooperation of the Prosecutor's Office with the Commission for monitoring actions taken by competent authorities in cases involving threats to and violence against journalists, murders of journalists and attacks on media outlets' property, is</p>	

ongoing. The Commission submitted 21 applications to the state prosecutor's offices during 2018/2019, all of which were acted upon.

The State Prosecutor's Office has implemented all 8 recommendations from the Montenegro Media Sector Inquiry, including recommendations for alignment with the CoE and EU standards (JUFREX) related to strengthening the media environment. In explanation, in accordance with the recommendations, state prosecutor's offices submit monthly reports on the handling of individual cases of attacks against journalists and their property, which also include criminal offences committed via the Internet; they attend continuous training on the topic of expression; update semi-annually the track record table containing all cases of attacks against journalists and their property; regularly inform the public about all cases of attacks against journalists that occur, to the extent that the interests of the investigation are not jeopardized.

The Police Directorate and the State Prosecutor's Office are committed to resolving cases of attacks against journalists and their property. They are continuously working on filling in and updating the database, so that all information on attacks against media practitioners and their property is clear and available in a timely manner.

The Police Directorate has appointed the chief police inspector, who coordinates all prosecutorial and police activities in this area throughout Montenegro. Additionally, all regional police headquarters have designated two criminal police inspectors to be in charge of these activities in the territories under their competence, regardless of whether the reported event has elements of a criminal act or misdemeanour. This complied with the requests of the representatives of the media community and fulfilled part of the obligations from the action plan for the negotiating chapter 23. Council of Europe representatives judged this way of working as extremely positive and unique in the area of Southeast Europe and the first case of comprehensive treatment of these issues by the police services in the region.

As of September 2018, the Police Directorate has been submitting answers to all requests sent by the Commission for monitoring actions taken by competent authorities in cases involving threats to and violence against journalists, murders of journalists and attacks on media outlets' property, without masking personal data, which is an example of open and good cooperation.

In 2018-2020, the Police Directorate registered 18 cases in which journalists were injured parties. Of this number, 12 cases have been resolved, 1 case has not been

	resolved, 1 case was submitted to another state for further proceedings, in 2 cases the files were submitted to the prosecutor for evaluation and decision-making, while in 2 cases the prosecutor stated that there were no elements of a criminal offence or a misdemeanour.	
105.47 Make further efforts to investigate all reported threats and attacks against journalists and media workers thus contributing to the promotion of the freedom of expression (Slovakia);	Reference to recommendation 105.46	
105.48 Ensure accountability for past attacks on independent media and journalists (Sweden);	<p>In all cases resolved with final force and effect between October 2017 and May 2020, convictions have been handed down.</p> <p>The Supreme Court of Montenegro regularly presents in a single data table all information on resolved cases, as well as on cases pending before the competent courts.</p> <p>The Police Directorate, as well as the representatives of the State Prosecutor's Office, are cooperating with the Commission for monitoring actions taken by competent authorities in cases involving threats to and violence against journalists, murders of journalists and attacks on media outlets' property. Treating these issues as one of the priorities in their work, Police Directorate staff monitor and analyse the recommendations of the Commission, and implement them in accordance with the procedures.</p>	
105.49 Ensure that all threats and attacks reported against journalists, media professionals and, more broadly, civil society representatives such as non-governmental organizations, are investigated promptly, thoroughly, impartially and independently, in order to foster conditions conducive to the exercise of freedom of expression (Switzerland);	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.46</p> <p>Having identified attacks against journalists and/or their property as a priority of the first order, in order to shed light on cases that are still pending, in September 2018 the Police Directorate appointed a high-ranking police officer in the Criminal Investigation Department with the rank of Chief Police Inspector, who coordinates activities in this sphere throughout the territory of Montenegro. Regional police headquarters have designated two criminal police inspectors each to be in charge of these activities in the territories under their competence, and they have been provided with guidelines and instructions for further work.</p>	

	<p>A training plan for PD officers was adopted in 2019 through the JUFREX 2 project, which is implemented under the auspices of the Council of Europe and the European Commission, with the aim of providing additional training on attacks against journalists and/or their property. The aim of the project is to boost further the capacities and cooperation at the regional level, as well as to enable the exchange of best practices in finding common solutions to freedom of expression matters and fundamental human rights in accordance with European and Council of Europe standards.</p>	
<p>105.50 Fully investigate and bring to justice perpetrators of attacks and serious threats targeting journalists, civil society activists and minority groups (United States of America);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.46</p>	
<p>105.51 Take further measures to investigate reports of intimidation and attacks against journalists and media enterprises and bring perpetrators to justice (Estonia);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.46</p>	
<p>105.52 Ensure that all prosecutions of attacks against journalists, high-level corruption and crimes under international law are conducted effectively and impartially and in accordance with international fair trial standards (Netherlands);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.46</p> <p>Cases opened in connection with cases of attacks against journalists are resolved as a matter of priority in court proceedings.</p> <p>The development of semi-annual and periodic reports continued for the needs of reporting to the European Commission on the status of high-level corruption and war crimes cases.</p> <p>High-level corruption and war crimes cases are dealt with as a matter of priority in court proceedings before the Specialised Department of the High Court in Podgorica. There were 85 cases against 220 defendants in the area of high-level corruption in the reporting period. Out of that number, 51 cases were resolved, of which 46 with final force and effect. In the area of war crimes, one case was pending against a defendant in which a conviction was rendered (final).</p>	

	<p>Pursuant to the established mechanism i.e. the War Crimes Investigation Strategy adopted in 2015 by the Supreme State Prosecutor for reporting on actions taken to strengthen the fight against impunity for war crimes, the Special State Prosecutor's Office, which is responsible for prosecuting war crimes perpetrators, submits reports to the Supreme State Prosecutor on a regular basis.</p> <p>In November 2020, as a result of intensive cooperation between the Special State Prosecutor's Office (SSPO) and the Residual Mechanism (RM), the RM submitted material to the SSPO containing data, documents and evidence indicating that war crimes were committed in the territory of BiH by Montenegrin nationals during the 1991-1992 war. Based on the submitted data, a case was opened within which the Chief Special Prosecutor established an investigation team in order to collect data and evidence aimed at prosecuting perpetrators of war crimes. The preliminary investigation procedure is underway.</p> <p>In the period from 01/10/2017 to 30/06/2020, 409 letters rogatory for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters were recorded at the Special State Prosecutor's Office, of which 265 letters rogatory were submitted by requesting states, while the SSPO sent 144 letters rogatory. From 2017 to 2019, there was an increase in the number of recorded letters rogatory on an annual basis, while in 2020, there was a decrease in the number of recorded letters rogatory.</p> <p>From October 2017 to July 2020, due to crimes in the field of high-level corruption, the SSPO issued 47 orders to conduct an investigation, financial investigations were initiated against 40 individuals and 15 legal entities, while indictments were filed against 69 persons.</p>	
<p>105.53 Ensure the safety of journalist and media workers against violence by condemning such attacks when they occur and taking further steps to end impunity for past attacks (Austria);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.46</p>	
<p>105.54 Ensure that all reported threats and attacks against journalists and media workers, as well as NGO's and human rights defenders, are investigated</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.46</p>	

thoroughly, impartially and independently (Greece);		
105.55 Ensure a safe environment for the activities of journalists and mass media (Belarus);	Reference to recommendation 105.46	
105.56 Increase efforts to prevent cases of violence against journalists and media workers (Czechia);	Reference to recommendation 105.46	
105.57 Implement mechanisms to guarantee freedom of expression and the independent work of journalists (Peru);	Reference to recommendation 104.4	
105.58 Step up efforts towards promoting freedom of press and expression, including safety of journalists (Brazil);	Reference to recommendation 105.57 Reference to recommendation 105.46 as regards the PD	
105.59 Further improve the protection of journalists in order to end the attacks they can be subject to (France);	Reference to recommendation 105.46	
105.60 Reinstate the commission for the investigation of assaults on journalists and commit it to publish, on a regular basis, activity reports on the scope and quality of its cooperation with other governmental agencies (Germany);	The ad hoc commission for monitoring violence against the media has produced six reports since September 2016 on both recent and old cases, identifying a number of shortcomings, including delays in investigations. The Commission's recommendations have yet to be fully implemented. Although its term of office has been extended until September 2020, the Commission's funding for 2020 has been temporarily suspended due to the Covid-19 crisis. Further efforts are needed to process cases efficiently and without delay, not just in order to avoid the statute of limitations.	
105.61 Take steps to ensure the ad hoc Commission and Parliamentary Committee are accountable and	On 10 September 2019, the European Integration Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro held a round table on media freedom and media environment in Montenegro, dedicated to Chapters 10 - Information Society and Media and 23 -	

<p>effective in monitoring reports of violence against journalists (Australia);</p>	<p>Judiciary and Fundamental Rights. The round table was attended by the minister of justice and the director of police, representatives of the Prosecutor's Office, Supreme Court, Ministry of Interior, Office for European Integration, commercial media outlets, national public broadcaster, as well as representatives of NGOs and the OSCE Mission to Montenegro. They discussed the media environment, and the resolution of cases of threats and violence against journalists.</p> <p>At a joint session held on 6 March 2020, the Human Rights and Freedoms Committee and the Security and Defence Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro held a consultative hearing of the acting Supreme State Prosecutor, director of the police and president of the Commission for monitoring actions taken by competent authorities in cases involving threats to and violence against journalists, murders of journalists and attacks on media outlets' property, on the topic Actions of competent state bodies in investigations of cases of threats and violence against journalists. The session was attended by state prosecutors, and by the head of the Criminal Investigation Department, and it was monitored by representatives of NGOs.</p>	
<p>105.62 Take further steps to ensure the full exercise of freedom of expression and media, including by ensuring effective investigation and prosecution of alleged threats and attacks on media personnel and property (Canada);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.46 for the Prosecutor's Office</p> <p>In the context of civil proceedings, freedom of expression, as one of the key values of a democratic society, is protected by the courts. In cooperation with the Agent of Montenegro before the European Court of Human Rights, the Supreme Court of Montenegro prepared an Analysis of Judgments of the European Court concerning Montenegro, which was presented in 2018. The Analysis sets out recommendations for the further application of the ECtHR case law in order to prevent violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms. In cases of restriction of rights, provided by Art. 10 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, courts are recommended to conduct a three-part test from the ECtHR case law and to adhere consistently to this principle in practice.</p> <p>A new Analysis of ECtHR Judgments passed in 2018-2020 was made in December 2019. The recommendations adopted also emphasized the importance of applying the three-part test, in order to harmonize national practices with the European Court of Human Rights case law.</p>	
<p>105.63 Recognise the important role of media self-regulation for journalists</p>	<p>The Law on Media adopted by the Government recognizes two types of self-regulatory mechanisms: internal (Ombudsman) and external self-regulatory body that</p>	

as the most effective tool to raise professional and ethical standards of the media without undue interference (Austria);	monitor compliance with professional and ethical standards contained in the Code of Journalists of Montenegro and decide on complaints. The Law prescribes the funding of self-regulatory bodies by a percentage of allocations from the Media Pluralism and Diversity Promotion Fund.	
106.10 Take further steps to ensure the full exercise of freedom of expression and media, including by ensuring equal opportunity for all media to access funding available from governmental sources (Canada);	Equal access of media outlets to funds from government sources is achieved through the Media Pluralism and Diversity Promotion Fund. The Fund provides financial support from the budget in percentage amounts set by law for the production of programme content of public interest for electronic, commercial, print, online and non-profit media. Funds are allocated based on a public competition by independent bodies: the Agency for Electronic Media for commercial and non-profit audio-visual media, or an independent commission established by the Ministry of Culture for print and online media.	
106.11 Shield media from political interference by strengthening independent oversight for the Agency for Electronic Media and the public broadcaster's governing council (United States of America);	Reference to recommendation 104.4	

8: FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 17			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
105.64 Implement vigorous policies to combat trafficking in persons, which also ensures the prosecution of perpetrators (Sierra Leone);	On 28/02/2019, the Government adopted the 2019-2024 Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, with a 2019 action plan. The Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings represents the national anti-trafficking policy in areas of prevention, victim protection, prosecution, as well as in the areas of partnership, coordination and international cooperation. In January 2020, the Government examined and adopted the 2020 Action Plan for		

	<p>the Implementation of the Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, while in March it adopted the report on the implementation of the Strategy and 2019 Action Plan, which followed up on the implementation of 55 activities. Out of the total number of planned activities, 49 (89%) were implemented, 5 (9%) were partially implemented, while one (2%) activity remained unimplemented.</p> <p>A functional mechanism of transnational cooperation has been established in order to identify, protect and register victims/potential victims of trafficking using unified standard operating procedures (SOPs) for transnational cooperation and case management regarding protection of victims/potential victims of trafficking, with special focus on children from Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia and Montenegro.</p>	
<p>105.65 Ensure effective implementation of the Anti-Trafficking in Human Beings Strategy 2012-2018 and its Action Plan (Bulgaria);</p>	<p>The 2012-2018 Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings has been fully implemented through the adoption and implementation of 5 action plans: (2012-2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017-2018).</p> <p>In mid-2018, the department responsible for internal affairs, in cooperation with and with the support of the OSCE Mission, hired an international expert to prepare an external analysis of the impact of the implementation of the Strategy for the period 2012-2017 (evaluation), which served as the basis for creating a new strategy for combating trafficking in human beings.</p>	
<p>105.66 Systematically strengthen legal and institutional mechanisms in order to more efficiently and effectively address human trafficking through Montenegro (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.71</p> <p>In the period covered by this report, institutional mechanisms for the fight against trafficking in human beings have been systematically strengthened by establishing two teams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Anti-trafficking task force, established by the decision of the Supreme State Prosecutor and the director of the police in December 2018. The task force has been tasked with: more efficient processing of THB cases; coordinating activities and work with other participants in the fight against trafficking in human beings; identifying THB victims in the trafficking chain and in cases of other criminal offences committed by criminal groups; gathering information on financial resources acquired through human trafficking and other criminal offences for the purpose of conducting financial investigations; international cooperation via direct contacts with police 	

	<p>services, especially in the countries of the region, as well as with other international organisations, initiatives and participation in joint investigation teams. This body consists of representatives of the department responsible for internal affairs, Police Directorate, High Public Prosecutor's Office and the department responsible for justice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – team for the formal identification of victims of trafficking (more detailed recommendation 105.67). <p>Trafficking in Human Beings, Smuggling and Illegal Migration Suppression Section was established in March 2018 at the Police Directorate, within the Criminal Investigation Department. At the local level (regional police headquarters and police substations), contact persons in charge of this field of work have been appointed.</p> <p>High Public Prosecutor's Offices are responsible for the criminal prosecution of perpetrators of trafficking in human beings. When the said criminal offence is committed in an organised manner, it falls within the competence of the Special State Prosecutor's Office. The High Public Prosecutor's Office issued Instructions to handle trafficking cases urgently and with special care.</p>	
<p>105.67 Continue increasing actions to fight against human trafficking, especially of women and children; and strengthen measures to prevent and improve the detection of cases of human trafficking (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);</p>	<p>In November 2019, a team for the formal identification of victims of trafficking was established at the department responsible for internal affairs. This team has been tasked with coordinating the initial referral and protection of persons presumed to be victims of trafficking; conducting the procedure of formal identification of THB victims; communicating and cooperating with local partners; visiting sites where vulnerable categories reside; informing the minister of interior on a quarterly basis about the results of its work.</p> <p>Since its establishment, from November 2019 and ending with March 2020, the team conducted the formal identification procedure for 43 individuals. An interview was conducted with 41 persons, while there was no need to conduct an interview in respect of two persons in order to make a decision. Out of 43 persons at risk of becoming victims of trafficking, the team granted victim status to 40 persons, while it was decided that three persons were not victims. Out of that figure, 39 persons were victims of THB for labour exploitation, while 1 person was victim of THB for the purpose of a forced marriage.</p> <p>Reference to recommendation 105.68</p>	

<p>105.68 Continue the efforts to combat human trafficking, especially of women and girls belonging to minorities, and take the necessary measures to ensure the protection and assistance of all victims of human trafficking (Algeria);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.67</p> <p>The 2016-2020 Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma and Egyptians recognizes social status and family protection as an area of action with four sub-areas, including the fight against human trafficking and the prevention of child marriages.</p> <p>In 2018 and 2019, the competent department for human and minority rights organised numerous educational activities and campaigns on protection against domestic violence, violence against women and child marriages in the Roma community intended for members of the police, and also for parents, children and Roma and Egyptian activists.</p> <p>Members of various institutions also attended the training sessions: police, prosecutor's office, judiciary, health care system, education system, employment bureaus and social welfare centres at the local level.</p>	
<p>105.69 Take additional measures to combat human trafficking (Angola);</p>	<p>The Agreement on Cooperation in the Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings between several state bodies and non-governmental organisations has been revised. Work on revising the Agreement took several months. Due to the corona crisis, there was no ceremonial signing of the Agreement. Instead, the agreed text of the Agreement was forwarded to the competent departments for signing via the mail log. It was signed in the period from 29 July to 3 September 2020. Due to the cessation of functioning of certain non-governmental organisations and reorganisation of certain state administration departments, the goal of this activity is to detail obligations of institutions defined in laws through clearly defined operational procedures implemented by the signatories of the Agreement in resolving specific human trafficking cases.</p> <p>In order to increase the professional capacities of representatives of competent state bodies for proactive identification, referral, protection and reintegration of potential and actual victims of human trafficking, as well as for a proper prosecution of perpetrators, training sessions for representatives of judiciary, prosecutor's office, police, health care system, social services, local governments, labour inspectors, and NGOs are continuously organised.</p> <p>The Let us Stop Trafficking in Human Beings campaign is being continuously implemented by broadcasting the TV spot Stop Trafficking in Human Beings, which also promotes the SOS anti-trafficking helpline (11 66 66). The said SOS helpline is funded from the budget and calls to this number are free from all networks in</p>	

	<p>Montenegro. In previous years, in anticipation of and during the summer tourist season, this TV spot was broadcast intensively so that all citizens, travellers and tourists could report suspicions of human trafficking.</p> <p>In 2017-2019, training sessions were organised for 60 journalists on reporting on cases of trafficking in human beings in accordance with Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights.</p>	
<p>105.70 Unaprijediti praktične mjere za borbu protiv trgovine ljudima, uključujući identifikaciju, gonjenje i kažnjavanje počinitelaca i pružanje zaštite žrtvama (Bjelorusija);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.66 & 105.73</p> <p>The Supreme Court of Montenegro has prepared an Analysis of Case Law for Trafficking Cases, in line with the need to examine these issues in more detail. This Analysis contains data on the profiles of victims and perpetrators of this crime, penal policy, and allows for further alignment with international standards, and it is expected to ensure the alignment of case law on penal policy. The research subject of the Analysis are all final judgments in cases of trafficking in human beings, which were rendered in a total of 18 cases, for the period from 2004 to 2019. The Analysis was presented in December 2019.</p> <p>Guidelines on the application of the provision on non-punishment of victims of trafficking in human beings were issued in December 2018. They are intended to police officers, state prosecutors and judges as a tool for applying the principle of non-punishment of victims of trafficking in human beings.</p> <p>Within the health care system of Montenegro, measures for the protection of victims of violence are being implemented. In accordance with the Protocol and the Code of Ethics, in addition to providing health care services, the health care professional is obliged to make an assessment as to whether there is violence against the patient and if there are grounds for suspicion, to inform the competent team that includes various specializations, as well as psychologists and social workers. If this team concludes that it is a victim of violence in any way, it is obligatory to report to the department responsible for internal affairs, which is in charge of handling the case further.</p>	
<p>105.71 Ensure that perpetrators of trafficking in human beings are brought to justice (Russian</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.66</p> <p>In the first half of 2019, the court rendered a conviction, which became final in November 2019. The High Court in Podgorica sentenced one defendant of trafficking in human beings and continuing rape to a single sentence of 17 years in</p>	

<p>Federation);</p>	<p>prison, while another defendant was convicted of trafficking in human beings and continuing aiding and abetting of rape to a single sentence of 15 years in prison.</p> <p>From January 2018 to June 2018 trafficking in persons cases were opened against 5 persons, of which 3 persons were indicted. Due to criminal offences that are similar in terms of their commission to trafficking in human beings, the prosecutor's office had opened cases against 56 persons, of which 27 persons were indicted, while criminal charges against 6 persons were dismissed.</p> <p>The Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution Service organised training sessions for 37 state prosecutors on the topic of combating trafficking in human beings.</p>	
<p>105.72 Adopt additional measures for identification, adequate protection and rehabilitation of the victims of human trafficking (Russian Federation);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.67</p>	
<p>105.73 Take further measures to ensure rehabilitation and reintegration of the victims of human trafficking (Armenia);</p>	<p>Through the competent department, the Government of Montenegro funds the functioning of the Shelter for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings. From October 2017 to August 2019, 5 female inmates - potential victims of human trafficking - were accommodated at the shelter.</p> <p>The Law on Social and Child Protection stipulates that the protection of victims of human trafficking, and of victims of other forms of violence in the shelter can be performed only by those service providers who are licenced to perform activities in the field of social and child protection, i.e., a licence to provide accommodation in a shelter. The list of licenced service providers that can accept potential or actual victims of human trafficking includes 3 NGOs as well as two public institutions. At the end of 2019, one NGO received a licence for a specialised shelter for victims of human trafficking. The competent government departments for labour and social welfare participate in the funding of the licensed shelter for victims of human trafficking.</p>	
<p>105.74</p>	<p>In order to intensify bilateral cooperation with countries in the region in terms of</p>	

<p>Strengthen its public policy aimed at combatting human trafficking, particularly of girls and women of the Roma, Ashkali and Gypsies, at the regional level and in cooperation with neighboring countries (Côte d'Ivoire);</p>	<p>improving prevention, identification, protection, referral and cooperation in criminal and other proceedings and assistance in voluntary repatriation of victims and potential victims of trafficking, while respecting the fundamental human rights, cooperation agreements were signed with Northern Macedonia, Albania and Kosovo - the countries whose nationals are in most cases (potential) victims or perpetrators of trafficking in human beings in the territory of Montenegro.</p>	
<p>105.75 Continue national efforts to combat human trafficking and child abuse (Egypt);</p>	<p>Protocol on the treatment of children living and working on the streets by bodies, institutions and organisations in Montenegro was adopted in 2019. The institution of Ombudsman initiated its drafting. The Protocol defines the actions of all official persons and other experts performing tasks of importance for the protection of children living and working on the streets (police, social welfare centres, other institutions and providers of social welfare services, health care institutions, educational institutions, organisations, etc.). The Coordination Body established by the competent ministries on 6 February 2020 will monitor its implementation.</p> <p>Within the joint project Public-Private Co-operation in the Prevention of Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Minors in Travel and Tourism Industry, over 200 representatives of the tourism industry signed and continuously implement the principles of The Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism. During 2018 and 2019, five training sessions were organised for representatives of the tourism industry from the northern, central and southern regions.</p>	
<p>105.76 Vigorously pursue public policy programmes aimed at combatting trafficking of persons, in particular Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian girls and women (Ghana);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.68 & 105.69</p> <p>During the reporting period, the department for human and minority rights organised seven-day camps (winter and summer) for the best Roma and Egyptian students of the 7th, 8th and 9th grades of primary school. This continuous activity aims to motivate students to continue their schooling, but also to teach them about the fight against human trafficking.</p> <p>During 2019, the Government of Montenegro provided financial support for 12 NGO projects (out of 14 applications): six projects in the field of protection and promotion of human and minority rights on the basis of two public competitions, and six projects in the field of social care for children and youth.</p>	
<p>105.77 Implement its public policy against</p>	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.64, 105.67, 105.68, 105.69 & 105.70</p>	

<p>human trafficking, in particular of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian girls and women, including at the regional level and in cooperation with neighbouring countries, by ensuring that all the victims of trafficking have free and immediate access to reception centers, medical care, psychological counseling, legal assistance and specialized rehabilitation services, as well as temporary residence permits, regardless of their ability or willingness to cooperate with the judicial authorities (Honduras);</p>	<p>The Law on Foreigners stipulates that a temporary residence permit may be issued for humanitarian reasons to: 1) a foreigner who is presumed to be a victim of trafficking in human beings or a victim of family or extended family violence; 2) a minor foreigner who has been abandoned or is a victim of organised crime or has been left without parental care or unaccompanied for other reasons or has been illegally employed in terms of labour regulations; 3) a foreigner for especially justified reasons of a humanitarian nature (caused by force majeure, serious illness, permanent disability and other justified cases whose circumstances support the conclusion that they are of a humanitarian nature).</p> <p>A foreigner who has been issued a temporary residence permit for humanitarian reasons has the right to accommodation, health care, education, work and financial assistance, in accordance with law.</p> <p>A foreigner who has been issued a temporary residence permit for humanitarian reasons may not be forcibly removed due to illegal entry or stay in Montenegro. Where there is a justified fear that by giving a testimony in criminal proceedings a foreigner could be exposed to danger to life, health, bodily integrity or freedom, s/he is provided with protection and exercise of rights in accordance with the law governing witness protection. A minor foreigner who has been found to be a victim of the crime of trafficking in human beings will not be returned to any state if an assessment of the threat and his/her safety indicates that such return would not be in his/her best interest.</p>	
<p>105.78 Enhance efforts to counter trafficking in human beings (Iraq);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.64 & 105.69</p>	
<p>105.79 Guarantee the implementation of policies aimed at combating trafficking in persons, in particular to protect Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian girls and women, who tend to be particularly vulnerable to being victims of such crime (Mexico);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.64, 105.68 & 105.76</p>	
<p>105.80 Enforce policies and measures aimed at ending child sexual exploitation (Sierra Leone);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.75</p> <p>On 17 July 2019, the National Council for Education passed a Decision adopting</p>	

	<p>advanced vocational training programmes for teachers for the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 school years for pre-school education, primary education and general secondary education. The competent department for internal affairs, in cooperation with educational institutions, has accredited two programmes intended for vocational training of teachers: 1) Integration of the principles of prevention in the fight against human trafficking into the Montenegrin education system, 2) Prevention of child trafficking, illegal marriages and economic exploitation of children through the education system.</p> <p>During 2018-2019 five training sessions were organised for about 140 teachers, teaching assistants and principals of primary and secondary schools from the southern, central and northern regions of Montenegro. After the training sessions, the participants were obliged to design and implement certain activities in their schools on the topic of combating child trafficking. Every year on 18 October, the European Anti-trafficking Day, classes on the topic of combating trafficking in human beings/children are held in all schools throughout Montenegro. Interactive performances were organised in high schools, and numerous flyers and brochures were developed on this topic.</p>	
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9: FIGHT AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 13			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
<p>104.7 Ensure adequate shelters are made available for victims of domestic violence (Malaysia);</p>	<p>Amended Rulebook on more detailed conditions for the provision and use, norms and minimum standards of accommodation services in the shelter was adopted in 2019. It improved the standards for accommodation service providers.</p> <p>The Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, (better known as the Istanbul Convention) recommends one shelter for victims of violence per 200,000 inhabitants. Montenegro has licenced three shelters, in compliance with the Istanbul Convention.</p>		
<p>105.109 Continue efforts to addressing domestic and gender-based violence</p>	<p>Protocol on the Treatment, Prevention and Protection against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence was signed in September 2018. All relevant</p>		

<p>against women (Nepal);</p>	<p>government departments, the prosecutor's office, Ombudsman and NGOs, signed the Protocol. The main objectives of the Protocol are: application of the Istanbul Convention in the daily practice of institutions in order to provide effective and rapid protection to victims of violence; exchange of data and information through information systems between relevant institutions and harmonization of data collection methodology with relevant institutions in order to create a single database. The single database was established in May 2019 and social welfare centres have been networked with the Police Directorate.</p> <p>During 2019, two National Plans for the 2019-2021 period were adopted: for the improvement of general support services for victims of violence and for the improvement of specialised support services for victims of violence.</p> <p>In order to combat domestic violence, and to ensure timely and proactive actions of the department of internal affairs and the police, the Task Force for Combating Domestic Violence and Violence against Women was established in 2018. The Task Force consists of representatives of relevant departments, the judiciary, prosecutor's office and NGOs. The Task Force's goal is to strengthen the coordination of institutions and establish a unified practice; cooperate in prevention, information exchange, education, reporting and prosecution; as well as assist and protect victims.</p> <p>Aiming at tightening the penal policy, the Working Group for drafting the Law Amending the Criminal Code of Montenegro was set up in 2019. According to the 2020-2022 Programme of Accession of Montenegro to the European Union, amendments to the Criminal Code are planned for the fourth quarter of 2021.</p>	
<p>105.110 Strengthen the strategy on the protection against domestic violence (Angola);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.109</p> <p>In accordance with the Action Plan for Chapter 23 and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the 2016-2020 Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in Montenegro, a series of campaigns, training sessions and workshops were conducted on protection against domestic violence and underage forced marriages among Roma and Egyptians.</p> <p>The electronic database for domestic violence was launched in May 2019. The database enabled the automatic exchange of data between the police and social welfare centres. A single, standardized way of recording cases of domestic violence has been established in this way; official and coherent statistical information are</p>	

	<p>obtained and the coordinated work of institutions and promptness in dealing with the protection of victims is improved.</p> <p>A series of training sessions on violence was conducted in order to build the capacity of professionals in social welfare centres, to improve the skills of case managers in working with victims of violence, especially children, with special reference to gender-based violence, on abuse and sexual violence against children; and to provide support to women who have suffered violence in accordance with the principles of due diligence. The number of participants from the end of 2017 to the end of 2019 is about 200.</p>	
<p>105.111 Continue taking measures in enhancing the efficiency of its national institutional framework with special focus on overcoming challenges in empowering women and protecting women and children from all forms of violence (Bhutan);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 104.7 & 105.109</p>	
<p>105.112 Ensure that all acts of domestic and sexual violence against women and girls are promptly and effectively investigated and prosecuted (Slovenia);</p>	<p>Continuous training of all police officers on the correct application of statutory provisions on domestic violence and on models of protection of victims of domestic violence is planned. In 2018 and 2019, training courses were organised on protective measures monitoring and execution, the procedure of petitioning for initiating misdemeanour proceedings and issuing barring orders (lasting up to three days), as important preventive measures to protect the victim, and on applying the protocol on handling cases of violence.</p> <p>In parallel, students acquire basic knowledge on this topic through the educational and vocational teaching curriculum of the Police Academy.</p> <p>Reference to recommendation 105.114</p>	
<p>105.113 Ensure effective implementation of the Law on Domestic Violence Protection including by providing comprehensive training for relevant actors: police, prosecutors, judges, and healthcare professionals (Republic of Moldova);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.112</p>	

<p>105.114 Ensure that all alleged cases of domestic violence are thoroughly investigated, perpetrators brought to justice and victims adequately protected and compensated (Estonia);</p>	<p>In 2018-2020, courts rendered 468 final judgments in cases of family or extended family violence under Art. 220 of the Criminal Code of Montenegro. Of that number, courts have rendered 447 final convictions.</p> <p>In the same period, misdemeanour courts issued 681 decisions in misdemeanour cases, laid down by the Law on Domestic Violence Protection, as well as 192 protective measures. Of the total number of decisions issued, 442 were convicting.</p>	
<p>105.115 Continue awareness-raising and education against gender based violence (Albania); Continue efforts to further promote women's rights and support awareness-raising and education on gender-based violence (Georgia);</p>	<p>In order to strengthen the system of multidisciplinary support to victims of violence in accordance with the standards and regulations of the Istanbul Convention, the following activities are underway:</p> <p>activities to amend the Law on Domestic Violence Protection; monitoring and evaluation of the Protocol on the Treatment, Prevention and Protection against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, use of the database and development of the UNDP training programme for the implementation of the Protocol, carrying out training programmes for the implementation of the Protocol.</p> <p>A training session, two seminars and three round tables for civil servants and teachers were organised in order to raise awareness of the importance of gender equality.</p> <p>Every year (kicking off on 25 November), the line Ministry for Human and Minority Rights conducts The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign. The campaign is conducted in co-operation with the UNDP Office, OSCE Mission, NGOs, and includes roundtables, videos, public classes for high school students, and workshops for various target groups engaged in prevention and protection from violence against women and domestic violence.</p>	
<p>105.116 Allocate adequate resources for the accommodation and care of victims of domestic violence. Break down the culture of impunity for domestic violence through public dialogue and advocacy (Canada);</p>	<p>Based on the Service Cost Analysis made by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, social welfare centres decide on the accommodation of victims of violence in the shelter and pay 250 euro per user of accommodation. This applies to both children and non-violent parents. A new Service Cost Analysis is being prepared through the IPA project.</p>	
<p>105.117 Enhance support services for domestic-violence victims (Ireland);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.111</p>	

<p>105.118 Further promote the rights of women by spreading public awareness on sexual harassment and the need to respect women's rights and welfare (Philippines);</p>	<p>Montenegro joined The Council of Europe's Recommendation to member States on preventing and combating sexism adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 27 March 2019, according to which it is obliged to take measures to prevent and combat sexism and its manifestations in all spheres of public and private life. The strategic document 2021-2025 Action Plan for Achieving Gender Equality will propose measures to prevent sexism in certain areas (language of communication, internet, media, etc.).</p> <p>In order to present the Recommendation and the topic itself, three round tables were organised during 2019 for representatives of the academia, institutions, media and religious communities. It was heard that all institutions should be involved in order to combat discrimination against women on all grounds and the role of the media in creating gender stereotypes and prejudices was emphasised.</p> <p>In March 2020, several NGOs conducted a campaign to raise awareness of sexual violence, which included a survey that showed that 64% of women experienced sexual violence, while only 12% reported the perpetrator, of which 2% were perpetrators were punished.</p>	
<p>105.119 Strengthen efforts to prevent and combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women and ensure that women victims of violence receive appropriate help and perpetrators are brought to justice (Italy);</p>	<p>The Code of Ethics for employees of the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions was adopted in January 2019. It regulates the prevention and protection from sexual harassment.</p> <p>The Gender Equality Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro regularly organises sessions of the Women's Parliament. They are attended by representatives of the Government and judiciary to discuss topics aimed at further empowerment of women, their position in society, fight against violence and gender equality.</p> <p>NGO CEDEM implemented the project Together for Sustainable Results in Combating Domestic Violence, Child Begging and Forced Marriages during 2018-2019, within which a conference was held in October 2019. The goal of this project was to establish mechanisms for solving these issues through the strengthening of multi-agency, coordinated cooperation of institutions at the local level. A network of local coordinators for combating domestic violence, child begging and forced marriages was created.</p>	

	Reference to recommendations 105.112. & 105.113.	
105.120 Ensure victims of domestic violence are provided with comprehensive counselling and rehabilitation services and trainings are provided on regular basis to sensitise all key personnel and authorities handling cases of domestic violence (Malaysia);	Reference to recommendation 105.111.	

10: ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, SOCIAL INCLUSION			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 6			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
104.3 Continue the implementation of measures with a view to enhancing the culture of participation of youth in decision making at the community and the society level, based on the Youth Strategy 2017-2021 (Romania);	<p>Measures and activities aimed at improving the culture of youth participation in the decision-making process, planned by the 2017-2019 Action Plan of the Youth Strategy, were fully implemented.</p> <p>A total of 11 youth organisations projects were supported in 2017. They included numerous workshops/seminars, peer educator trainings, volunteer actions, training sessions aimed at increasing participation and the culture of youth participation in the decision-making process; A Study of Practical Policy in the Field of Higher Education and Employment of Persons with Disabilities was prepared, a survey was conducted to map high schools with a low level of student participation, the work of the Youth Centre in Podgorica was supported, which organised 105 activities for the young resulting in empowering young people to create and implement youth policies.</p> <p>A total of 25 youth organisation projects were supported in 2018, including workshops/seminars, volunteer actions with the aim of increasing youth activism and strengthening the work of youth clubs in four Montenegrin municipalities.</p>		

	<p>Ten youth organisation projects supported in 2019 continued training sessions to increase the participation of young people at the local level in the field of creating and implementing youth policy and developing the entrepreneurial spirit among young people.</p> <p>The key activities of the Ministry of Sports and Youth in 2020 were implemented by funding NGO projects related to: educational non-formal programmes and schools that promote and strengthen youth activism, including young people belonging to vulnerable groups, as well as democratic governance and participation mechanisms in the decision-making process. During 2019/2020, 11 Youth Support Centres were opened in 11 municipalities for the implementation of youth activities and youth work through these programmes.</p> <p>The European Youth Card project is implemented in cooperation with the NGO Centre for Youth Education. It is aimed at developing youth activism, participation and networking of youth cardholders in various areas of social action. The project has been implemented since April 2018. The Youth Card is an internationally recognized benefit card that allows young people aged 13-29 to use more than 140 discounts in Montenegro, as well as 70,000 of discounts around Europe. In cooperation with local government units and the NGO Centre for Youth Education, Ministry of Sports and Youth has so far distributed about 8,500 youth cards. Promotions of card benefits and networking opportunities were organised during 2019 and 2020.</p> <p>Through the Programme of Pursuing Public Interest in the Field of Youth Policy in 2020, the Ministry of Sports and Youth organised numerous training sessions on combating extremism and hate speech, prohibiting discrimination, encouraging activism, protecting the environment, as well as the project Digital Literacy and Protection of Children and Youth on the Internet, with the aim of raising their awareness of a safer and more secure internet environment. Environmental actions were implemented in cooperation with the NGO Green Home with the aim of making young people more active in terms of environmental protection.</p>		
<p>105.88 Use effective measures to eliminate and prevent violations of economic, social and cultural rights (Turkmenistan);</p>	<p>Legislation in the field of culture is aligned with international standards, and the use of cultural content is ensured on an equal basis, taking into account the particularities of culture itself and its broader context. Participation in cultural life is based on the equal preservation of all cultural identities and respect for cultural diversity.</p> <p>One of the potential measures for the effective preservation of cultural rights refers to</p>		

	<p>the consumption and production of cultural content of persons with disabilities. The competent department continuously advocates, in cooperation with institutions in the field of culture, that facilities be accessible to persons with disabilities, that cultural contents be adjusted in adequate formats, as well as that support be provided to projects in public competitions implemented by, among others, persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Regarding the right of everyone to enjoy the protection of moral and material interests resulting from artistic production, there are four organisations in Montenegro for the collective protection of copyright (Music Authors' Rights; Film Producers' Rights; Reprographic Rights and Performers' Rights).</p>	
<p>105.89 Pursue its work to eliminate poverty and to reduce social exclusion (Libya);</p>	<p>The 2016-2020 National Strategy for Employment and Human Resources Development, which aims to create optimal conditions for employment growth and improvement of human resources in Montenegro through four priorities, defines goals and activities to increase employment, reduce unemployment, promote social inclusion and reduce poverty. To that end, through activation measures of employable users of cash assistance benefits, regular activities of the Employment Office include the provision of information, counselling and motivation services aimed at inclusion in active employment policies and/or the job-finding services.</p> <p>In the reporting period, active employment policy measures were undertaken for an average of 3,000 persons per year, while vocational rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities measures were undertaken for 660 persons in 2018 and 1407 persons in 2019.</p> <p>In accordance with the 2018-2022 Strategy for the Development of the Social Protection System for the Elderly, the department responsible for labour and social welfare developed day care services for adults and the elderly with disabilities in order to support life in the community through socializing, social integration, occupational therapy, availability of health services with one meal a day, and in order to develop the potential of users and empower them. By May 2020, 13 day care centres for adults and the elderly have been opened in the territory of Montenegro. Home help services are continuously provided in 15 municipalities.</p>	
<p>105.90 Initiate the application of innovative approaches and technological innovations for the efficient,</p>	<p>The department responsible for labour and social welfare has developed a web and android application for monitoring, evaluation and reporting about the home help</p>	

<p>accountable and transparent delivery of public services (Azerbaijan);</p>	<p>services in 15 municipalities in Montenegro.</p> <p>Government departments have been working to improve electronic services in a number of domains, especially during the 2020 corona virus pandemic. We should also mention electronic services for patients in the field of healthcare introduced by 2018 (ePharmacy, ePrescription, eReport, eInsurance, eOrdering, eScheduling), economy (grant application portal - Programme for Improving the Competitiveness of the Economy, salary subsidy application service - COVID 19 programme), submission of personal documents.</p>	
<p>105.92 Accelerate the implementation process of the new strategy for developing social protection for the elderly (Gabon);</p>	<p>In order to encourage social inclusion, increase the quality of life and capacity use by the elderly for independent living, in accordance with the Strategy, the department of labour and social welfare has been increasing the number of elderly users using community living support services and improving services by increasing the number of social protection activity licences issued to service providers for the elderly.</p> <p>The Strategy envisages that all local governments establish at least one social welfare service for the elderly. In addition, community living support services have been established, as follows: home help for adults and the elderly with disabilities used by 1,200 beneficiaries in 15 municipalities; 13 day care centres for adults and the elderly with disabilities; accommodation in a shelter for the homeless within a home for the elderly and personal assistance. In the reporting period, work was done on increasing the capacity for accommodation of the elderly in Montenegro. In addition to the existing three institutions for the accommodation of the elderly, it is planned to open homes in two other municipalities.</p> <p>Regulations on conditions for issuing, renewing, suspending and revoking licences for performing social protection and child protection activities and for licences for professionals in the field of social protection and child protection have been adopted.</p> <p>Less stringent conditions for licencing service providers in these areas have been laid down, which has increased the number of service providers, and at the same time enabled services to be provided in a uniform manner regardless of who provides them (public institutions, natural or legal persons, organisations, NGOs) and in which municipalities they are provided.</p>	
<p>105.93 Intensify its efforts to improve the quality of public health care services for groups in a particularly</p>	<p>In accordance with the national strategic documents for early detection of cervical, colon and breast cancer, as well as raising awareness of the importance of regular</p>	

vulnerable situation (Mexico);	<p>examinations and early detection of the disease during 2018-2019, screenings continued. During the reporting period, cervical cancer screening was performed for 42,141 women, colon cancer screening included 46,545 people, while there were 19,439 women in the breast cancer-screening group.</p> <p>Reference to recommendation 105.127</p>	
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11: WOMEN			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 15			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
<p>104.6 Install more effective control mechanisms for hospitals which perform prenatal genetic tests for the detection of sex in foetuses. Due to the transnational nature of the issue, a close coordination with Serb governmental agencies should be targeted (Germany);</p>	<p>The Centre for Genetics within the Clinical Centre performs prenatal genetic tests in order to determine foetal health. An instruction was issued to the Centre and to all gynaecological services that the test cannot be performed only for determining gender. In the public sector, this has fully taken root, but there is still no possibility of adequate control of the private sector, as they are not yet electronically networked.</p> <p>In November 2017, the Women’s Centre’s Unwanted campaign against selective abortions and the unequal position of girls in relation to boys in Montenegrin society was conducted, which aims to point out the consequences of the long-standing problem of selective abortions.</p>		
<p>105.42 Improve the representation of women in political life, particularly in the Government and in the Parliament (France);</p>	<p>In the area of increasing the representation of women in political and public life, activities were focused on changes to the electoral legislation started in 2018 and the development of capacities to support women in 16 political parties gathered around the Women’s Political Network (WPN). Amendments to the electoral legislation were prepared, in order to improve the political participation of women in Montenegro and increase the quota of 40% for candidates of the underrepresented sex on the electoral lists and submitted to the Parliament of Montenegro in 2019. Amendments to the Law on Election of Members of Parliament and Local Councillors were not adopted during the previous convocation of the Parliament. Voting on changes to the election legislation is expected to take place during the term of the new Parliament.</p> <p>The adoption of the Law on the Political Party Funding (2019) provided €500,000 in the national budget for 2020 for the operation of women’s forums in political parties.</p>		

	<p>There is continuous work to increase the participation of women in political and public life. There were 29.63% of women in the convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro in the reporting period, which means that the quotas laid down by CEDAW have been fulfilled.</p> <p>Three MPs were chairpersons of the 2016-2020 Parliament: the Legislative Committee, the Political System, Justice and Administration Committee and the Gender Equality Committee. The Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) consisted of two female MPs. The Stabilization and Association Parliamentary Committee included three female MPs. There was one female MP in the Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. There was one female MP in the Delegation to the South East European Cooperation Process Parliamentary Assembly (SEECF PA).</p>	
<p>105.43 Strengthen public policies to improve representation of women in public and political life (Plurinational State of Bolivia);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.42</p>	
<p>105.91 Continue to adopt legislative and administrative measures to better ensure the rights of vulnerable groups such as women, children and persons with disabilities (China);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.91</p>	
<p>105.98 Carry on to strengthen its domestic legislation by continuing efforts towards bringing national laws in line with its obligations under international human rights law, especially those related to women and children (Bosnia and Herzegovina);</p>	<p>Amendments to the Labour Law were adopted in December 2019, in line with European directives related to the protection of maternity and maternity leave.</p> <p>In the course of 2020, the final version of amendments to the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination, which will achieve compliance with the relevant EU directives, was being developed.</p> <p>Reference to recommendations 105.109, 105.115 & 105.119</p>	
<p>105.99 Resource appropriately the implementation of the Action Plan for the Achieving Gender Equality 2017-2021 and monitor its implementation (Australia);</p>	<p>Activities under the Action Plan for Achieving Gender Equality are financed from the funds allocated for the normal operation of competent authorities. The Law on Budget lays down more details concerning the financing of activities, and donor funds are also used for their implementation. Results achieved include strengthening women's political participation by establishing the Women's Political Network consisting of representatives of all political parties in Montenegro, organising training for media</p>	

	<p>employees on gender equality, and continuous training for economic empowerment of women in order to increase the number of women entrepreneurs.</p> <p>In 2020, the competent department for human and minority rights, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, finalized the external evaluation of the Action Plan for Achieving Gender Equality, which provides independent and systematic assessments of the success of activities, and guidelines for the next cycle of strategic planning and for defining a new plan.</p>	
<p>105.100 Continue to implement equal opportunities policies aimed at promoting gender equality between men and women in all spheres, combating domestic violence and of violence against women and eliminating traditional gender stereotypes regarding women's role in society (Namibia);</p>	<p>Training sessions for civil servants in state departments, teachers, as well as coordinators from local governments on the topic of gender equality are continuously conducted.</p>	
<p>105.101 Strengthen the bodies created to eliminate discrimination against women (Peru);</p>	<p>Projects of non-governmental organisations in the field of gender equality are continuously funded. In 2018, 11 projects were supported, and in 2019, 16 NGO projects dedicated to these matters were supported. Approved projects for 2020 relate to strengthening women's entrepreneurship, women's educational empowerment, economic empowerment of LGBTQ women, establishing a network of women with disabilities in view of participating in public and political life, equating the rights of women in customary marriages with the rights of married women.</p> <p>In order to strengthen inter-agency cooperation and eliminate discrimination based on sex and gender in numerous areas, the Commission for Implementation and Monitoring of the Gender Equality Strategy and Action Plan was established in 2017, which monitored the implementation of the four-year strategic document for gender equality (2017-2021). The role of the National Council for Gender Equality, established in 2016, as an advisory body that monitors the implementation of gender equality policies at the national and local levels, and coordinates the work of contact persons for gender equality, is significant.</p>	
<p>105.102 Continue to address the challenges in the area of equal chances between women and men, with a particular focus on economic and political empowerment of women, as well as combating violence and stereotypes on traditional women's role (Romania);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.100 & 105.42</p> <p>Training sessions for media employees on the topic of gender equality were also organised.</p>	

<p>105.103 Fully implement action plans on gender equality in order to ensure women’s political participation, education, economic empowerment and address the needs of women facing multiple discrimination (Sweden);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.42</p> <p>The Employment Office implements active employment policy programmes that aim to increase employment. During 2018 and 2019, 61% of all participants in the programmes were female. In order to encourage entrepreneurship, the Recast Programme for Continuous Stimulation of Employment and Entrepreneurship in Montenegro is being implemented. In 2018 and 2019, 49 loans for unemployed females were provided.</p> <p>Vocational rehabilitation includes measures and activities that enable persons with disabilities and other hard-to-employ persons, as a target group, to adequately prepare for the labour market, train for work, keep employment, be promoted once employed or change their career. In 2018 and 2019, 807 persons were included in the measures and activities of vocational rehabilitation. Of the total number included, 525 were women, which is 65.06% of the total number.</p>	
<p>105.104 Take further measures to promote women’s economic empowerment and their participation in political life and decision-making (Slovenia); Take further measures to promote women’s economic empowerment and their participation in political life and decision-making (Iceland);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.42</p> <p>Encouragement of women’s entrepreneurship has continued, and financial resources and access to credit facilities are continuously provided by applying to the Investment and Development Fund of Montenegro, and the Employment Agency, with the support provided by local governments. The IDF implements special support facilities for women in business for the following areas: agriculture, tourism, manufacture, services, liquidity, competitiveness incentives, green field, and infrastructure projects. The Women in Business credit facility was launched, among others, for start-up companies owned by women.</p>	
<p>105.105 Continue measures to combatting discrimination against women, and promoting their economic and political empowerment (Nepal);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.42; 105.99 & 105.100.</p>	
<p>105.106 Increase efforts to address specific issues, such as the lack of women political participation as well as wage inequality and the unequal distribution of responsibilities in the home (Uruguay);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.100; 105.102; 105.104</p> <p>The Gender Equality Index for Montenegro, as an instrument for measuring progress in achieving gender equality, was presented for the first time at the end of January 2020. The index value was calculated with a score of 55 out of 100, which indicated that Montenegro needs to make further progress in the field of gender equality. Despite a number of legislative and strategic documents adopted to strengthen the</p>	

	position of women and achieve full gender equality, inequality continues to manifest itself through insufficient political and social participation of women, economic inequalities, unequal division of household chores, differences in access and property rights that bring women to a disadvantaged position, etc. These data will enable decision makers and competent authorities to formulate strategies for further improvement of the position of women and reduction of inequalities that exist in the society.	
105.107 Continue their significant efforts in the promotion of gender equality and to take further steps in creating an enabling environment for women's participation in all spheres of life (Greece);	Reference to recommendations 105.42; 105.100; 105.102 & 105.104	
105.108 Strictly apply the prohibition of abortion based on the sex of the foetus and establish assistance services for women who feel pressured to carry out abortions for such reason (Uruguay);		

12: CHILDREN			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 10			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
105.81 Continue its efforts to raise awareness about forced unions or child or forced marriages in the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, in particular by guaranteeing the investigation and punishment of such practices (Argentina);	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.74, 105.75 & 105.80</p> <p>During 2018-2019, Government and NGOs projects related to improving the provision of services and increasing awareness on combating trafficking in human beings in the Balkans (Albania, Northern Macedonia, Montenegro, Kosovo) were implemented with the aim of strengthening the capacity of representatives of institutions in implementing transnational SOPs for exchanging information on THB cases, for the purpose of better implementing bilateral cooperation agreements.</p> <p>During 2018 and 2019, training sessions and campaigns were conducted in settlements in 14 towns for Roma and Egyptian parents and children, as well as for</p>		

	<p>NGO activists and civil servants on protection against domestic violence, violence against children and underage forced marriages among the Roma population.</p> <p>During 2019, 13 underage victims of the crime of common law marriage with a juvenile were registered.</p>	
<p>105.87 Intensify its efforts to combat child labor through systematic and effective labor inspections, investigating, prosecuting and punishing those responsible and providing victims with assistance (Timor-Leste);</p>	<p>The Labour Inspectorate continuously monitors the employment of children by all supervised entities. Children in Montenegro are registered working during the summer season on the coast. Irregularities mainly relate to the lack of documentation for the employment of persons between 15 and 18 years of age, which is the minimum age of employment. Children were generally not found doing difficult and dangerous jobs; instead, jobs performed by them were those of a salesperson or an auxiliary in stores, and often in a shop within a residential building owned by the parent of the child found working.</p> <p>In cooperation with the International Labour Organisation, since October 2019, the Government of Montenegro has been implementing MAP16 Project to accelerate action against child labour, which has three components: 1) aligning Montenegrin national legislation with international standards on the protection of children at work, through drafting the Hazardous Child Labour List; 2) strengthening the national framework for monitoring the prevalence of child labour, especially in the field of child begging; 3) improved capacities to enforce laws and policies related to child labour, including the worst forms of child labour. The training sessions will be focused on the identification of child labour and protection of children from it, including the worst forms thereof and they will be conducted in a number of municipalities.</p>	
<p>105.95 Expedite measures to broaden inclusive education for children with disabilities (Bulgaria);</p>	<p>The Montenegrin education system for children with special educational needs sets inclusive education as the first choice and imperative. These children are enrolled in preschool institutions free of charge. Kindergartens and schools develop an Individual Development and Education Plan (IDEP) for each child, which includes academic and development goals. A programme of transition from kindergarten to primary school was developed in order to facilitate the adaptation of children with special educational needs. An Individual Transition Plan – 1 (ITP-1) was developed for the transition of students from primary to secondary school. In order to facilitate the transition to the labour market for pupils with special educational needs, an Individual Transition Plan – 2 and 3 (ITP-2, ITP-3) was developed, connecting education, employment and college enrolment.</p>	

	<p>For children with special educational needs, schools hire teaching assistants as technical support. In order to improve work with children with special educational needs, manuals, instructional and educational teaching materials and guides have been developed. Ten textbooks in DAISY format were prepared (readers and history textbooks for primary school). The portal includes information related to inclusive practice: material, examples of good practice, publications, and solutions to real-life dilemmas.</p> <p>The Inclusive Education Strategy (2019-2025) sets further directions for the development of education for children with special educational needs, and relies on binding international principles, standards and recommendations of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.</p>	
<p>105.96 Continue strengthening its efforts to improve the accessibility of quality education to children with disabilities who remain outside of the educational system (Maldives);</p>	<p>Resource centres play a significant role in the education of children with special educational needs. There are three resource centres in Montenegro: Dr Peruta Ivanović in Kotor - resource centre for hearing and speech; 1st June in Podgorica - for children and people with intellectual disabilities and autism; Podgorica - for children and youth with physical and visual impairments. They implement early intervention programmes, provide support for inclusive education through: counselling and professional work, training of teachers and teaching assistants to work with children with special educational needs, use of sign language, preparation, adaptation, development, training for the use of special textbooks (Braille, Daisy format).</p> <p>Instructions Accessibility of Educational Institutions and the Educational Process was prepared and delivered to schools, and a consultation on this topic was conducted with school principals.</p> <p>During the school year, Non-Discrimination Day is organised in all schools. Additionally, workshops are conducted for all pupils and teaching staff in order to foster their attitudes of acceptance and non-discrimination culture and practice.</p> <p>The inter-agency team monitors the implementation of the Inclusive Education Strategy (2019-2025). Focus has been placed on early development, i.e., support for children in preschool institutions (early intervention, training, adapting the work, materials, access). Targeted, specialised training sessions and practical staff management are conducted with the constant support of professionals. Efforts were predominantly invested into creating a positive environment and ethos that leads to non-discrimination and acceptance in schools. A programme of transition from class</p>	

	<p>teaching to subject teaching was developed, as well as a programme of support for adolescents with disabilities. The IPA project improves accessibility, equipment and conditions, as well as adaptation of the teaching process through modularized vocational education programmes.</p>	
<p>105.121 Continue improving the promotion and protection of children's rights, including through strengthening the Council on Child Rights (Slovakia);</p>	<p>The number of members of the Council for the Rights of the Child has increased. It includes representatives of three civil society organisations and one child, and it has been agreed to increase the number of children to at least two. Council meetings are held regularly to discuss current topics concerning further promotion and protection of children's rights. The Strategy on the Rights of the Child envisages the establishment of a Secretariat for the Rights of the Child, as well as the extension of the mandate of the Council for the Rights of the Child to all areas from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols.</p> <p>Children's rights are continuously promoted through public awareness campaigns, media promotions and curricula.</p>	
<p>105.122 Strengthen the Council on the Rights of the Child and increase the capacity of Government bodies, Parliament, the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms, civil society and academic institutions to improve the promotion and protection of human rights of children (Algeria);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.6 & 105.121</p> <p>The amount of funds has been increased, especially for promotional activities in all areas of human rights protection, including the organisational unit for the protection of children's rights. In the field of protection of children's rights, funds are specifically allocated for the work of the network of Ombudsman's golden advisers, which includes regular annual activities of children members of the Network, holding a conference at the end of the year and drawing an activity report of the Network.</p>	
<p>105.123 Implement the new Strategy for Prevention and Protection of Children from Violence through a strong multisector approach that also includes a system of effective monitoring and evaluation (Croatia);</p>	<p>The development and implementation of programmes of measures under the 2017-2021 Strategy for Prevention and Protection of Children against Violence implies a cross-sectoral approach at all levels. In order to implement the Strategy more efficiently, coordinators from different departments change on an annual basis, and in this way the ministries recognize their responsibility and role in protecting children from violence.</p> <p>The most significant results of the implementation of the Strategy are: The Labour Law, which entered into force in January 2020, introduced changes to ensure that the candidates to professions whose exercise implies regular contacts with children have not been convicted of acts of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse of children.</p>	

In May 2019, the Directorate for the Protection of Children and Youth was set up within the line department of labour and social welfare. In December 2018, the National Child Helpline was introduced at the PI Children's Home Mladost in Bijela, as well as the service of sheltering and protecting children against domestic violence. During 2018, the institutions in which children stay developed procedures for the protection of children: Children's Home Mladost in Bijela and the public institution Centre Ljubović in Podgorica. The Family Counsellor programme is continuously implemented, aiming to support families at risk and prevent the separation of children from their families.

The implementation of the programme Parenting for Lifelong Health, which was started in 2018, is in progress. The Programme is intended for families of children aged 2 to 9, and it aims to promote positive parenting and a healthy parent-child relationship by improving parental knowledge, skills, positive parenting practices, better parental supervision of children, reducing inconsistent and strict discipline of children, improving the mental health and social support of caregivers, better knowledge and greater use of social protection services in the event of partner violence or illness in the family, as well as greater involvement in kindergarten, school and early childhood learning.

In December 2019, the Programme for the Suppression of Peer Violence and Vandalism in Educational Institutions in Montenegro was presented, with its 2019-2021 Action Plan. A helpline was also introduced for reporting purposes. The Bureau for Educational Services has appointed a qualified person who deals with the occurrence of violence and vandalism in schools.

The department of health has begun reinforcing the community nursing care, organised training sessions for community nurses and developed an internal protocol on the actions of health care institutions in preventing and responding to violence against children during 2019.

Promotional material dealing with children's access to justice has been produced during 2018. There are professional child support services at the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, the High Court in Podgorica, the High Court in Bijelo Polje, while two courtrooms in the High Court in Podgorica are equipped with modern equipment for hearing child victims in a special way. The child victim is not examined more than twice.

	<p>The possibility of removing electronic records of persons convicted of crimes against the sexual freedom of children and minors from files was introduced in 2018. Audio-visual techniques appropriate for hearing tailored to the needs of the child and criminal proceedings are in use in the three basic state prosecutor's offices.</p> <p>In cooperation with the department of culture and UNICEF, media literacy campaign Let's Choose What We Watch was launched in February 2018. The aim of the campaign is to promote media literacy among parents and children, improve the quality of media reporting on matters related to children's rights and increase the quality of media programmes for young people in Montenegro. The aforementioned UNICEF campaign received an international award from the UNESCO-led Global Alliance for Partnership on Media and Information Literacy (GAPMIL).</p>	
<p>105.124 Take the necessary measures to define the new National Plan of Action for Children (NPAC) for the period 2018-2022 (Qatar);</p>	<p>In April 2019, the Government adopted the 2019-2023 Strategy for Exercising the Rights of the Child with an Action Plan. The Strategy is a comprehensive and inter-agency document that deals with the improvement of conditions for the exercise of the rights of the child in all areas covered by the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols.</p> <p>The implementation of the Strategy implies cooperation of all ministries and other institutions important for the exercise of the rights of the child, as well as inter-agency cooperation – between the public sector, the NGO sector and international organisations. The Strategy was prepared through a broad consultative process that involved about 100 children's representatives. The opinions of children were key to the analysis of the situation and issues in the field of children's rights in Montenegro, as a starting point for formulating the Strategy.</p>	
<p>105.125 Adopt measures to generate public conscience in order to ensure that the legal prohibition of corporal punishment is effectively complied with (Uruguay);</p>	<p>Owing to the amendments to the Family Law, which has been in force since May 2017, Montenegro is now among about 50 countries in the world that have explicitly banned the corporal punishment of children. Activities carried out by non-governmental organisations that are partners in projects directly contribute to the achievement of measures and goals from the 2017-2021 National Strategy for Prevention and Protection of Children against Violence (reference to recommendation 105.123).</p> <p>Training programmes have been created and implemented to change attitudes that support violence, accept corporal punishment and other harmful traditional practices, stereotypical gender roles, racial or ethnic discrimination.</p>	

	Numerous training sessions of professionals in the social protection and child protection system were conducted, on the topic of children victims of domestic violence, on the vulnerability of children in institutions and day care centres to violence.	
106.12 Take measures to prohibit child marriage and child labour particularly within the minority communities (Republic of Korea);	Reference to recommendations 105.68 , 105.75 & 105.81	

13: MINORITIES AND ROMA			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 13			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
105.94 Establish strategies to increase the educational participation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children (Sierra Leone);	Adoption of the new 2021-2024 Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in Montenegro, which will continue the activities aimed at achieving the highest possible inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in Montenegro, is planned for the first quarter of 2021. Its development will begin in the IV quarter of 2020. Research, including the presentation of results on the degree of inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in Montenegro in four key areas: education, employment, health care and housing is planned for the third quarter of 2020.		
105.126 Ensure the proportional representation of the national minorities in the public sector at the national and local level (Russian Federation);	The right of minorities to proportional representation in public services, state authorities and local government bodies is guaranteed by the Constitution of Montenegro and relevant laws (Law on Civil Servants and Employees and the Law on Minority Rights and Freedoms). During 2019, the department for human and minority rights, in cooperation with the Human Resources Administration, conducted a research on the representation of minority nations and other minority national communities in local government bodies, companies and other public institutions. The results of the research are being processed.		
105.127 Take additional measures to ensure equal access of	Free transportation is provided in the capital city for RE pupils of primary schools.		

members of national minorities, including the Roma, to education, health care services and labour market (Russian Federation);

Since September 2019, transportation for RE primary school pupils has been provided in two more municipalities.

In 7 of the 24 municipalities, 22 assistants (mediators) were hired in primary schools in the 2020/2021 school year. During 2020, 274 scholarships were awarded to high school students (60 euro per month). A total of 29 scholarships were paid during 2020 for university students (150 euro per month).

Mentors (teachers) were hired in primary and secondary schools within the project implemented by the NGO Young Roma in cooperation with the department of education. During 2020, 83 mentors (teachers) were hired in primary schools for 299 7th and 9th grade pupils of the RE population. During 2020, 92 mentors (teachers) were hired in high schools for 277 high school Roma and Egyptian pupils.

The department for human and minority rights, in cooperation with the department of health, i.e., the health centres of the two largest municipalities in Montenegro, organised three preventive screening activities for members of the Roma and Egyptian communities from these municipalities during 2019. This action covered over 60 workers of the Public Utility Company from the two largest municipalities in Montenegro.

In June 2020, preventive examinations were organised by the Ministry of Health for members of the RAE population in the health centres of 6 municipalities. In 2020, 24 utility workers from the southern region (all men) were examined.

The department for minority rights and the department of internal affairs organised during 2019 training sessions for members of the RAE population on the consequences of early arranged marriages (illegal marriages), as well as workshops, and round tables. Representatives of the NGO sector, which deal with the protection of the RAE population, also participated in these activities.

Fourteen members of the Roma and Egyptian population (two women) were employed in seven public works programmes during 2020, which were implemented in 4 municipalities. In addition to the above, in 2020 the Employment Office supported the implementation of the project Keep it Clean. The authority competent for its implementation is the department responsible for sustainable development and tourism, and partners are the Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management, municipalities and public utility companies. Within this project, unemployed hard-to-

	<p>employ persons, including members of the Roma and Egyptian population, were hired to maintain major and regional roads in all municipalities in Montenegro. Fifteen members of the Roma and Egyptian population (two women) were involved in this project.</p> <p>During 2020, 49 Roma and Egyptians (23 women or 46.93%) were employed in seasonal jobs).</p>	
<p>105.128 Allocate a suitable budget to ensure that the Strategy for the Roma, Egyptian Social Inclusion of 2016-2020 will be fully implemented and to continue its efforts to secure a sustainable housing solution for minority persons and ensure their inclusion in the educational system (State of Palestine);</p>	<p>A total of 778,500.00 euro were planned from the state budget for the implementation of measures from the Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in Montenegro for 2019, while 1,171,000.84 euro were spent. The rest of the funds were collected from other sources.</p> <p>The implementation of the Regional Housing Programme will close the chapter on displacement in the former Yugoslav republics. The main donor of the Regional Housing Programme is the European Union. Through the Regional Housing Programme for Montenegro, it is planned to ensure funds for providing housing to 6,063 persons (1,177 households) who belong to the most vulnerable categories (persons accommodated in informal collective centres and vulnerable persons in private accommodation, with special reference to Camp Konik). The regional housing project is being implemented in more than 13 Montenegrin municipalities.</p> <p>Implementation of subproject MNE 4: Construction of 94 housing units in the municipality of Berane was completed within this Programme in 2019. Construction began in 2017, and all the beneficiaries had moved in on 26 March 2019. Out of 94 housing units in total, two housing units were given to the Roma and Egyptian populations. Upon construction of these housing units, two collective centres Rudeš I and Rudeš II were completely shut down.</p> <p>During 2018-2019, the Government funded 26 NGO projects dedicated to social inclusion and to the protection and promotion of the human rights of Roma and Egyptians.</p> <p>Reference to recommendation 105.127</p>	
<p>105.129 Allocate additional financial resources to implement the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.128</p>	

and Balkan Egyptians (United States of America);		
105.130 Strengthen the efforts to implement the strategy on minority policy, especially for the preservation and development of culture, education and information in their languages (Albania);	Reference to recommendation 106.5 In July 2019, the Government of Montenegro adopted the 2019-2023 Minority Policy Strategy, with the accompanying 2019-2020 Action Plan, the implementation of which will continue to preserve the multicultural wealth of Montenegro and further improve the living conditions of minorities in Montenegro. Public forums, training sessions and seminars were organised, with the aim of raising awareness of the specific characteristics of minority nations.	
105.131 Continue to raise awareness on the needs of the Roma population, in particular women and children, and establish adequate systems that provide for their economic, social and educational inclusion (Austria);	Reference to recommendation 105.128	
105.132 Continue efforts to ensure that the Roma, the Ashkalis and Egyptians can fully enjoy their economic, social and cultural rights (Peru);	Working group in charge of drafting the 2021-2025 Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in Montenegro was established in November 2020. The drafting of the Strategy has begun, for the needs of which a survey of the socio-economic position of Roma and Egyptians in Montenegro was conducted in mid-2020 ¹ . In addition to the representatives of the competent departments, members of the Working Group drafting the Strategy are representatives of international organisations based in Montenegro, a representative of the Roma Council in Montenegro and five representatives of NGOs. It is planned to send the draft Strategy to the Government of Montenegro for adoption by the end of the first quarter of 2021. The Strategy will be aligned with The EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation for 2020-2030.	
105.133 Continue to make efforts to promote tolerance and inter-ethnic dialogue within the country, including by strengthening the Minority Councils (Brazil);	The Law on Minority Rights and Freedoms stipulates that financial resources for funding the councils of minority nations or other minority national communities are to be provided in the Budget of Montenegro in the amount of at least 0.05% of the current budget.	

¹ The survey is available in the English language on the website: https://mmp.gov.me/ResourceManager/FileDownload.aspx?rid=419781&rType=2&file=Power%20Point%20prezentacija_Socio-ekonomicko%20poziciono%20stavisanje%20Romana%20i%20Egipatskog%20stanovnistva%20u%20MNE.pdf

	<p>The following are included in the records of the Council: the Albanian National Council in Montenegro, the Bosniak Council in Montenegro, the Croatian Council in Montenegro, the Council of the Muslim People in Montenegro, the Roma Council and the Serbian National Council of Montenegro. The councils of minority nations or other minority national communities are obliged to submit a report on financial operations at least once a year.</p> <p>Each council has its representative in the managing board of the Fund for Minority Rights Protection and Exercise and the Council for Cooperation with Diaspora.</p> <p>During the reporting period, minority councils continuously carried out activities to promote their culture, language and heritage.</p>	
<p>105.134 Increase efforts to end discrimination on ethnic grounds and continue working to eliminate stereotypes and prejudices against persons belonging to the national minorities (Chile);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.130</p> <p>The public competition for 2019 entitled Protection and Promotion of Human and Minority Rights approved the distribution of funds to 27 NGO projects in the field of development and promotion of the rights of minority nations and other minority national communities.</p>	
<p>105.135 Accelerate the implementation of programs, particularly building projects, aiming at improving the integration of people belonging to minority groups and settle the legal issues regarding their residence status (France);</p>	<p>In the reporting period, the Government funded two NGO projects related to the regulation of the legal status in Montenegro.</p> <p>Combined mobile biometric teams of the Government of Montenegro and the Government of Kosovo, UNHCR and NGOs, have intensively and continuously provided legal and practical assistance (interviewing, biometrics and issuance of personal documents) to internally displaced persons from Kosovo, who have been living in Montenegro since the late 1990s. During 2019, 2 visits of the mobile team of the Ministry of Interior of Kosovo to Montenegro were organised, during which 91 persons were provided with services.</p>	
<p>105.136 Strengthen the function of the Minority Councils designed to represent ethnic minorities, and conducting information campaigns in the public domain to combat intolerance (Ireland);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.133</p>	

<p>105.137 Intensify the efforts to guarantee non-discrimination against minorities (Plurinational State of Bolivia);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendations 105.134, 105.126, 105.128</p>	
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14: PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 10			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
<p>105.85 Adopt and implement policies that promote the employment of persons with disabilities (Ghana);</p>	<p>The proposed Law on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities is being prepared. The draft was sent for opinion to the European Commission and the International Labour Organisation.</p> <p>An Individual Transition Plan - 1 (ITP-1) has been developed for the transition of pupils from primary to secondary school. In order to facilitate the transition to the labour market for students with special educational needs, an Individual Transition Plan - 2 (ITP-2) was developed, which connects education and employment, as well as ITP-3 for the needs of college enrolment. All of these activities are accompanied by continuous training sessions. ITP 1 was adopted in 2015, ITP 2 in 2017 while ITP 3 was adopted in 2020.</p>		
<p>105.86 Continue to improve measures against employment discrimination towards persons with disabilities through legislation (Maldives);</p>	<p>Implementation of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities from Discrimination and Promotion of Equality is continuously monitored, with special emphasis on monitoring the recommendations from the Analysis of Montenegrin Legislation's Alignment with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.</p> <p>The Law on International and Temporary Protection of Foreigners was adopted, improving measures against discrimination of persons with disabilities in access through legislation.</p>		
<p>105.96 Continue strengthening its efforts to improve the accessibility of quality education to children with disabilities who remain outside of the</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.95</p>		

educational system (Maldives);		
<p>105.138 Continue harmonising its legislation with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Andorra);</p>	<p>The alignment of domestic legislation in the field of protection of human rights and protection against discrimination of persons with disabilities with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is continuously monitored, based on the Analysis of Montenegrin Legislation's Alignment with the UN Convention and the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities. Out of 59 analysed laws, 34 have been recommended for alignment, and 9 laws have been aligned so far.</p> <p>The Law on Media, adopted by the Parliament of Montenegro in July 2020, prohibits the publication of information in the media expressing ideas, claims and opinions that provoke, disseminate, encourage or justify discrimination, hatred or violence against a person or group of persons because of their personal properties.</p> <p>The Law on the National Public Broadcaster ☐ Radio and Television of Montenegro, adopted by the Parliament in July 2020, sets forth the obligation of the national public broadcaster to produce and broadcast, free from any form of discrimination, programme content intended, inter alia, for all segments of the society, especially taking into account persons with disabilities.</p> <p>The proposed Law on Audio-visual Media, which is being drafted, envisages the obligation of the regulator to encourage the improvement of the accessibility of AVMS to persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Reference to recommendation 105.5</p>	

<p>105.139 Continue implementing measures to increase the effectiveness of the implementation of the Law against Discrimination of Persons with Disabilities (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.38</p> <p>There is continuous cooperation with the local governments to promote the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities and the 2017-2021 Strategy for Protection of Persons with Disabilities from Discrimination and Promotion of Equality.</p> <p>Training sessions for representatives of local governments on protection of human and minority rights and on anti-discrimination legislation, position and policies for protection of vulnerable social groups (Roma, LGBTI persons, persons with disabilities, women and minorities), as well as on the obligation to adopt local action plans are continuously conducted, in line with strategic documents and international standards in these areas.</p> <p>The Protector was working in 2019 on 24 cases due to discrimination on the grounds of disability (17 cases in 2018).</p>	
<p>105.140 Issue legislation that is more compatible with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Iraq);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.138</p>	
<p>105.141 Review national legislations regarding restrictions to the rights of persons with disabilities to harmonize it with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Republic of Korea);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.138</p>	
<p>105.142 Continue strengthening institutional structures and support measures to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities (Chile);</p>	<p>In June 2020, the Government of Montenegro established the Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Council consists of representatives of the Government and non-governmental organisations. The tasks of the Council are to monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to promote and improve the rights of the population in the field of health care, social protection and child protection, upbringing and education, job skills training and employment, accessibility, anti-</p>	

	<p>discrimination and sports.</p> <p>The Government of Montenegro continuously funds projects of non-governmental organisations dealing with the protection of persons with disabilities.</p> <p>The legislative framework grants persons with disabilities rights to be provided support services for living in the community or their immediate environment (day care, home help, supported housing, drop-in centre, personal assistance, interpretation and translation into sign language and other support services for community living).</p> <p>There are ongoing efforts to provide conditions for persons with disabilities to have access to all public institutions. Based on the 2014 Action plan for adaptation of structures used by the public for access, movement and use by persons with reduced mobility, by the end of 2019, 13 identified priority institutions have been adapted to the needs of PWDs. The implementation of the new, 2019 action plan is underway, which identified 10 priority institutions for adaptation. In addition, the services and accessibility of Braille inscriptions are being improved, which enables persons with visual impairments to find their way around and to be informed about the competent services inside the facilities.</p> <p>An information booklet in Braille on the services, documents and rights of citizens can be taken from regional units and branch offices issuing personal documents.</p> <p>Training sessions for employees of relevant institutions are continuously conducted, in order to increase the level of respect for human dignity, diversity and the rights of persons with disabilities in Montenegro.</p>	
<p>106.13 Adopt a human rights and disability approach in its laws, politics and measures, in addition to providing training and creating awareness on the rights enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol (Ecuador);</p>	<p>In the 2017-2020 period, the Government of Montenegro has been continuously working on improving the position of persons with disabilities in culture in relation to barriers to accessibility in a broader context, engaging in cultural work and presentation in adequate formats. The 2019-2020 Action plan for adaptation of structures used by the public for access, movement and use by persons with disabilities and persons with reduced mobility has been adopted. In order to implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to ensure the accessibility of facilities, round tables are held in cooperation with local governments. In the 2018-2020 period, ten round tables were held. The publishing activity of the Library for the Blind has been improved. A public competition is announced on an annual basis as an incentive and support for cultural and artistic creation. Projects are evaluated according to statutory criteria, which also include the contribution to the promotion of creativity of persons with disabilities.</p>	

	An Action plan for the implementation of the recommendations of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is being drafted in order to improve the overall quality of life for these persons.	
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15: REFUGEES, DISPLACED AND IDPS			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 1			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
<p>105.143 Strengthen efforts to address the plight of refugees by providing durable solutions (Philippines);</p>	<p>As a measure for a permanent solution to the status of displaced and internally displaced persons, under the Law on Foreigners (March 2018), Montenegro enabled DPs and IDPs to acquire the status of a permanent resident alien in Montenegro on preferential terms. These persons are enabled to integrate into Montenegrin society and exercise the right to work and employment, education, advanced vocational training, recognition of diplomas and certificates, social assistance, health and pension insurance, tax benefits, access to the labour and services market, freedom of association, affiliation and membership in organisations representing the interests of workers or employers.</p> <p>In the period November 2009-April 2020, displaced persons and internally displaced persons submitted 15,247 applications for approval of permanent residence and temporary residence for up to three years. Of this number, decisions were reached on 15,075 applications, while the procedure on 172 applications is underway.</p> <p>Through the Regional Housing Programme for Montenegro, it is planned to provide funds for meeting the housing needs of 6,063 persons who belong to the most vulnerable categories (persons accommodated in informal collective centres and vulnerable persons in private accommodation). So far, out of the planned number (6,063), 2,272 of them have had their housing needs met in Montenegro. Out of the planned nine, five projects have been fully implemented, and the implementation of four projects is on-going. After the construction of 171 housing units for the residents of Camp Konik in Podgorica, the largest informal camp in Montenegro was closed in December 2018.</p> <p>In 2017, 31 people returned to Kosovo. In 2018 and 2019, there was no organised return, although 27 people were interested in it. Such a modest result in terms of returns in recent years was caused by the successful integration of these persons into</p>		

	Montenegrin society, by resolving their legal status, providing them full access to socio-economic rights, as well as successfully meeting their housing needs.	
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16: REDUCTION OF STATELESSNESS			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 1			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
<p>105.144 Introduce into law a mechanism to expedite the determination of statelessness (Namibia).</p>	<p>The Law on Montenegrin Nationality is in line with the principles of the European Convention on Nationality, that is to say, it addresses matters such as the avoidance of statelessness, prevention of arbitrary deprivation of nationality, prevention of discrimination and the right to nationality.</p> <p>Montenegro is one of the countries that has introduced a procedure for determining the status of stateless persons through the adoption of the new Law on Foreigners, which entered into force in March 2018 and the Rulebook which defines more detailed ways for introducing the procedure, contents of the application for determining the status of a stateless person, contents of the application for the issuance of a travel document for stateless persons, as well as the layout and contents of the travel document.</p> <p>In accordance with this Law, activities have been undertaken to determine and recognize the status of stateless persons, thus ensuring the enjoyment of fundamental human rights and freedoms, while respecting ratified conventions. This Law sets forth the procedure, while the Rulebook prescribes more detailed ways of conducting the procedure upon an application for declaring the applicant a stateless person and the form of travel documents for stateless persons.</p> <p>From the start of application of the new Law on Foreigners (Official Gazette of Montenegro, nos. 12/2018 and 3/2019), four (4) travel documents for stateless persons have been issued and two (2) temporary residence permits, while the procedure is ongoing based on nine (9) applications for establishing that the applicant is a stateless person. At the end of 2019, training sessions were organised for all employees who are in direct contact with a stateless person and are responsible for implementing the newly established procedure for determining the status of stateless persons.</p>		

17: LGBTI PERSONS			
TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS: 6			
IMPLEMENTED	IMPLEMENTATION IN PROGRESS	IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT STARTED	
RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTING MEASURES		STATUS
<p>105.16 Further strengthen efforts to protect the rights of LGBTI persons effectively and investigate and prosecute cases of violence and discrimination against LGBTI persons (Iceland);</p>	<p>At the end of each calendar year, the ministry in charge of human and minority rights collects data on the activities and practices of the police and judicial authorities (judiciary, prosecutor's office) in connection with reported and processed cases of discrimination, violence and other attacks on LGBTI persons. Based on the data obtained, an Information Briefing Note is compiled, which is an integral part of the Report on the implementation of measures from annual action plans for the implementation of the 2013-2018 Strategy for Improving the Quality of Life of LGBTI Persons in Montenegro, as well as the 2019-2023 Strategy for Improving the Quality of Life of LGBTI Persons in Montenegro, which were adopted by the Government of Montenegro.</p> <p>When it comes to security and protection of LGBTI persons, great efforts have been made to sensitize and improve the capacity and knowledge of members of the police, judges, prosecutors, as well as representatives of local governments to work with LGBTI persons, as well as to improve the knowledge of judges and prosecutors to prosecute hate crimes towards LGBTI persons, and in informing citizens from the LGBTI community, their friends and family members about their rights in the field of misdemeanour and criminal law protection against discrimination and violence. In relation to informing LGBTI persons about their legal rights in the field of criminal law and misdemeanour law protection against violence and discrimination, we can state that it is at a satisfactory level owing to the of holding of information sessions, workshops, meetings, information through social networks, as well as information materials distribution.</p> <p>In addition to the above, special emphasis has been placed on increasing the trust between the police and the LGBTI community through cooperation within the Police Directorate–LGBTI Community Trust Team. This form of cooperation enables intensive exchange of information between the stakeholders on cases of violence and discrimination against LGBTI persons, cooperation of the LGBTI community and the police in undertaking joint educational activities and the development of</p>		

	<p>publications and handbook for the work of police officers with LGBTI persons. As needed, the Trust Team invited representatives of the judiciary and other interested institutions to its meetings.</p> <p>The Trust Team had a special role in the preparation and monitoring of the Pride Parade, with the aim to ensure the safety of all its participants. In addition to the Trust Team, the security of LGBTI persons has been enhanced by establishing the network of police officers in charge of contact with LGBTI persons.</p> <p>When it comes to the system of monitoring and preventing peer violence resulting from sexual orientation, gender identity and/or intersex characteristics, teams for prevention of any type of peer violence have been established in all educational institutions. Moreover, a team has been established within the department of education for monitoring the occurrence of violence and vandalism. It will meet quarterly or as needed. Team members are representatives of the department of education, the Bureau for Educational Services, the department of labour and social welfare, as well as representatives of the association Parents. A helpline in the department of education has also been opened and a person has been appointed within the Bureau for Educational Services to deal with peer violence.</p> <p>At the end of 2018, a survey was conducted in primary and secondary schools in Montenegro, which included pupils, parents and teaching staff. The survey was focused on examining different dimensions of peer violence in Montenegrin schools. The survey was conducted in 20 municipalities and it included 75 primary and 41 secondary schools in Montenegro. According to the results of the survey, 24.8% of primary school pupils experienced some kind of violence. In secondary schools, 24% stated that they had experience with peer violence.</p> <p>In Montenegrin schools, every fifth child has experienced some form of peer violence, mostly verbal. The results of the survey showed that more than 90% feel safe.</p> <p>State prosecutor's offices have designated state prosecutors specializing for cases involving LGBT victims. A representative of the prosecutor's office is part of the task force headed by the department of internal affairs.</p>	
<p>105.17 Fully implement adopted legal measures against discrimination and effectively address reported cases of violence against persons based on their</p>	<p>An Analysis of the implementation of the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination from the perspective of protection of LGBTI persons from discrimination is being prepared, with a focus on 2013-2019. This Analysis will point to the challenges</p>	

<p>sexual orientation and gender identity (Czechia);</p>	<p>faced by the judiciary and other competent institutions in relation to the processed cases in which LGBTI persons were victims, that is, to the challenges in the implementation of the criminal law and the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination.</p> <p>The development of a system for collecting disaggregated data is currently in the business needs analysis phase. The Analysis envisages that cases of hate crimes against LGBTI persons will be recorded separately in the system. The new system should be developed by the end of this year and implemented during the next year.</p> <p>In the reporting period, 27 training sessions were organised for state prosecutors, on the topic of prohibiting discrimination against LGBT persons. Therefore, state prosecutors are continuously trained on this topic. The prosecutor's office holds working meetings with NGOs involved in the protection of LGBT persons.</p>	
<p>105.18 Redouble its efforts, by assigning human and financial resources, to effectively implement the adopted measures to protect the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons (Honduras);</p>	<p>In accordance with the obligation from the Law on Non-Governmental Organisations and the Decision determining priority areas of public interest and amount of financial resources for funding NGO projects and programmes, based on prior consultations with NGOs, in 2018-2019 the Government funded projects with a focus on priority issues: prejudices against LGBTI persons in Montenegrin society and viewing them stereotypically; insufficient information of LGBTI persons, the public and practitioners about human rights and the prohibition of discrimination against LGBTI persons; very few procedures for protection against violence and discrimination against LGBTI persons; insufficient level of knowledge of professionals on anti-discrimination legislation and its inadequate application; insufficient training of local institutions for sensitized work with LGBTI persons and implementation of LGBTI policy of the Government of Montenegro; insufficient development of social services to support LGBTI persons.</p>	
<p>105.19 Strengthen institutions to combat discrimination and violence based on sex, sexual orientation or gender identity (Mexico);</p>	<p>Reference to recommendation 105.16</p> <p>The 2019-2023 Strategy for Improving the Quality of Life of LGBTI Persons in Montenegro, which was adopted in March 2019, sets forth the establishment of a Trust Team between the LGBTI community and PD, thus continuing the mandate of the team that worked under the previous Strategy.</p> <p>A seminar or a training session is held once a year to increase the capacity of the staff of the department of internal affairs in the field of combating discrimination and violence based on gender, sexual orientation or gender identity.</p>	

	<p>In the 2017/2018 academic year the department of education organised a training session for psychological and counselling services in secondary schools. A survey was conducted on the position of LGBT youth in secondary schools from the point of view of professionals working in secondary schools.</p> <p>The Don't Be on the Sidelines campaign against violence against high school students, conducted in the fourth quarter of 2018, covered 50% of the school population active on Facebook and at least 60,000 indirect users (general community, families and friends of high school pupils, teaching staff).</p> <p>The thematic session Violence and Youth was organised in the fourth quarter through the UPSHIFT programme: workshops for recognizing all forms of violence, developing school projects and selecting the 5 best ones.</p> <p>Programmes and training sessions for increasing teacher competences in the field of anti-discrimination (including LGBTI) are continuously conducted).</p>	
<p>105.82 Protect the family as it is the natural and fundamental unit of society (Egypt);</p>	<p>The support person concept was introduced in the legal system of Montenegro in 2016 via the Law Amending the Family Law and with the support of UNICEF. This legal concept was introduced with the aim of providing professional assistance and support to a child participating in court proceedings related to family relations in which there is a strong conflict between parents and children or between parents themselves, which is especially important to avoid the harmful impact of such dispute on the mental and physical development of the child. Training sessions were conducted and licences were issued for 17 support persons, so this concept has been applied since November 2017.</p> <p>For a period of two years (November 2017–November 2019) the courts hired support persons in 31 cases. The report on the implementation of this legal concept showed that its introduction into the legal system of Montenegro is justified, seeing that it is not required that the child freely expresses his opinion before the court on all matters concerning him, and the protection of the child from being misused by the parents in very conflicting situations is also greater.</p> <p>Training sessions for judges, lawyers and social workers on providing support to the child in family law relations were continuously conducted.</p>	
<p>105.83</p>		

<p>Work out, in a timely fashion, a concrete draft law for the legalization of same sex partnerships which can be passed expeditiously by parliament (Germany);</p>	<p>The Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Law on Life Partnership of Persons of the Same Sex on 1 July 2020.</p>	
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